THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN

4

日本国初代大統領

桜木健一郎

ART: TSUGIHARA RYUJI
STORY: HIDAKA YOSHIKI

RAIJIN GRAPHIC NOVELS™

Character Profile

Alex Carradine
Strong willed President of the United States.

Jefferson Spider
U.S. Secretary of State. A classmate of Sakuragi from their undergraduate days at Stanford.

Li Mei-Feng
Chief of the Security Bureau of Taiwan and another former classmate of Sakuragi.

Sakuragi Kenichiro
Newly elected Prime Minister of Japan. He has had to contend with wars at his borders, the plotting of his enemies, an assassination attempt, and now nuclear terrorism. His strength of character and will are put to the test as he leads Japan through its most turbulent times since WWII.

Katagiri Daijiro
Chairman and majority owner of Shin-Nippon Marine Transportation. Father of Katagiri Toru.

Captain Katagiri Toru
Squad leader of the Red Card Special Forces team.

Liu Hua-yun
Commander of the Chinese Military. A dangerous and ruthless man who will stop at nothing to take power over Asia. He opposes the recent reforms and instead believes in a return to oppressive government and military aggression.

THE CONDITION FOR INDEPENDENCE FROM AMERICA

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN

日本国初代大統領 吉本健一郎™

VOLUME 4

ART: TSUGIHARA RYUJI
STORY: HIDAKA YOSHIKI

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Volume 4

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THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN™

Can the new Prime Minister of Japan prevent the destruction of his country? The fate of Asia hangs in the balance in the exciting conclusion to this political thriller!

Top manga artist Tsugihara Ryuji and political analyst Hidaka Yashiki have come together to produce a work that seems torn from today's headlines.
In the near future, the Japanese go through a political and social upheaval. Fed up with ineffective bureaucrats and politicians, they vote for a new leader—Sakuragi Kenichiro. Before he can even take office, Asia erupts into chaos. War breaks out in Korea and in the Strait of Taiwan. The United States terminates the security treaty with Japan and allies with Russia. And Sakuragi's own political enemies try to assassinate him at home. Now the new leader of Japan and his crew of supporters must prevent Japan—and all of Asia—from sliding into anarchy!

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CHINA, ZHONGNANHAI
CHAPTER 20:
THE GREAT RED DRAGON BARES ITS FANGS
WHY AREN'T WE HELPING OUR ALLY, NORTH KOREA?
ARE WE GONNA ABANDON THEM?
WHAT'S OUR GOVERNMENT DOING?
1
2
STOP BEING SO SPINELESS!
IS CHAIRMAN WONG AFRAID OF THE U.S.?
CHINA WILL BE SWAL-LOWED WHOLE BY AMERICAN IMPERIAL-ISM!!
3

CHAPTER 20:
THE GREAT RED DRAGON BARES ITS FANGS

THE PROTESTS ARE GROWING EVEN LARGER!
5
CAN'T YOU HEAR THE VOICES OF THE PEOPLE!?
6
WE MUST SEND THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY TO NORTH KOREA AT ONCE AND RESIST!
7
THE AIR STRIKE ON NORTH KOREA IS NOTHING BUT AMERICA'S NEW STRATEGY OF IMPERIALISM AND INTERFERENCE!
CALM DOWN.
VARUU
9
8

11
WHAT?
WHAT DOES OUR NATION REALLY NEED?
THINK, GENTLEMEN.
10
WE MUST NOT LET THIS INCIDENT HINDER OUR POLICY OF REFORM AND GREATER FREEDOM THAT HAS BEEN THE FOUNDATION OF OUR FAST ECONOMIC GROWTH.
DOES IT TRULY SERVE THE BEST INTERESTS OF OUR GREAT NATION TO DWELL ON NORTH KOREA AND POINT OUR GUNS AT AMERICA?
13
DURING THE COLD WAR, NORTH KOREA WAS VALUABLE FOR US AS A BUFFER BETWEEN COMMUNISM AND CAPITALISM.
COMMUNISM
CAPITALISM
BUT THOSE TIMES ARE LONG GONE.
WATCH YOUR WORDS!
15
WHAT A LOAD OF HOT AIR.
14
12

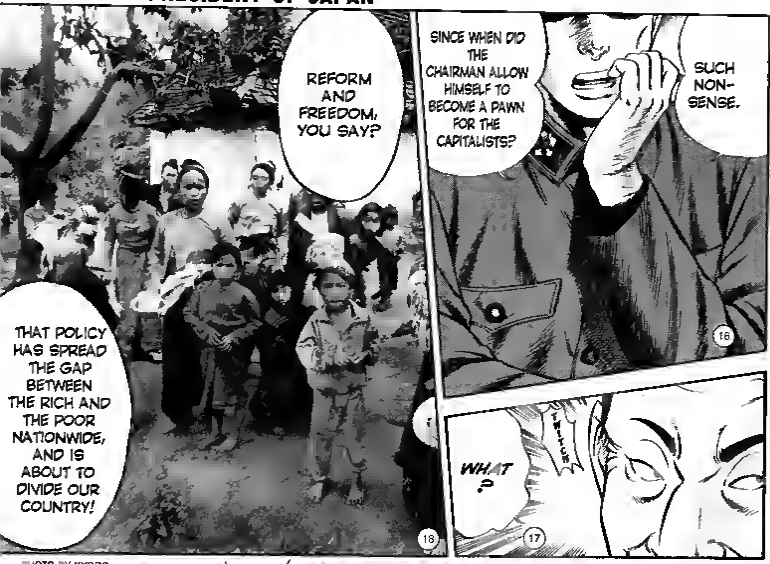

REFORM AND FREEDOM, YOU SAY?
THAT POLICY HAS SPREAD THE GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR NATIONWIDE, AND IS ABOUT TO DIVIDE OUR COUNTRY!
18
SINCE WHEN DID THE CHAIRMAN ALLOW HIMSELF TO BECOME A PAWN FOR THE CAPITALISTS?
SUCH NON-SENSE.
16
WHAT?
17

PHOTO BY KYODO

19
HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THIS?
HE'S *RIGHT!* IN THE CHAIRMAN'S HOMETOWN OF SHANGHAI, EVEN THE MILITARY DOES BUSINESS IN U.S. DOLLARS, AND CORRUPTION IS RIFE!

YOU'VE TRADED YOUR PATRIOTISM FOR *GREED!* YOU'RE NOT FIT TO LEAD OUR 1.2 BILLION PEOPLE!
OUR GREAT NATION IS *DISINTEGRATING* INTO NOTHING BUT A GATHERING OF SMALL COUNTRIES!
20
21

YOU ARE RELIEVED.
23
IS THAT HOW YOU ADDRESS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY?
SILENCE, YOU YOUNG FOOLS!
22
THOSE WHO DO NOT OBEY ME CAN LEAVE THIS ROOM!
24
25

IT IS YOU WHO MUST LEAVE.
BITE
BITE
THE MILITARY WILL NOT TOLERATE THIS ANY FURTHER.
BITE
27

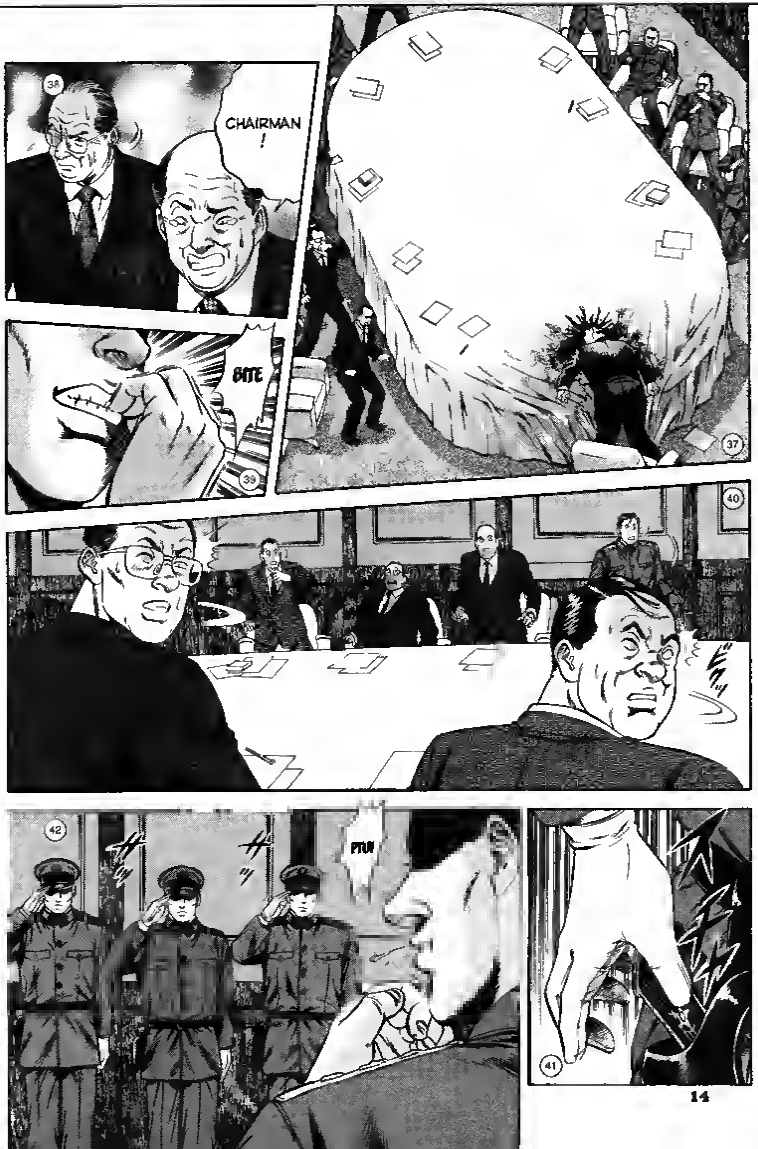
CHAIR-MAN ...
BITE
26

28
WHAT DID YOU SAY?

29

BLAM
UGH!
BLAM
BLAM

34
ACK...
UGH...
33
32
35
DEAD ?
SHOT ?
31

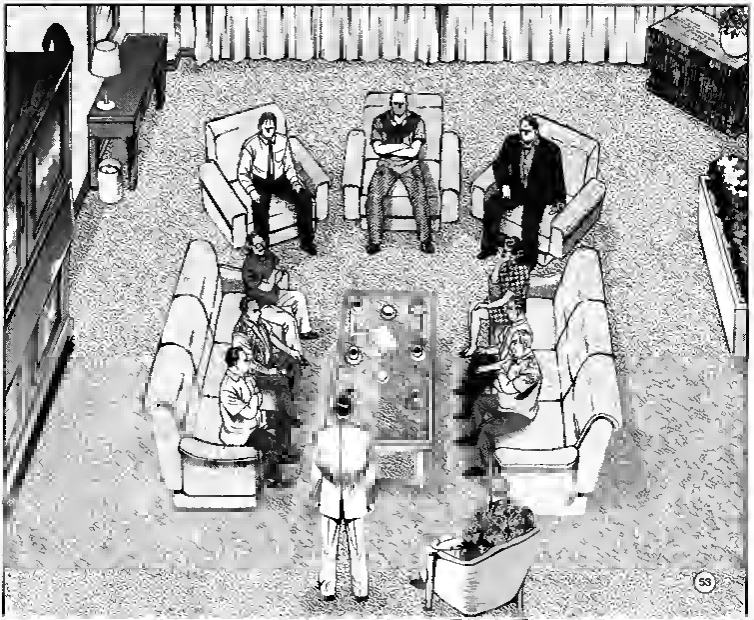

38
CHAIRMAN
!
BITE
39
37
40
42
PTUI
41

43
GENTLEMEN, I BELIEVE THIS IS WHAT WE WANTED?
WE ALL AGREED TO THIS.
STATE CENTRAL MILITARY COMMISSION VICE CHAIRMAN
LIU HUA-YUN
44
ERR ...
48
WE WILL?
HOWEVER, WE SHALL HIDE HIS DEATH FROM THE PUBLIC FOR A WHILE.
NO TURNING BACK NOW.
45

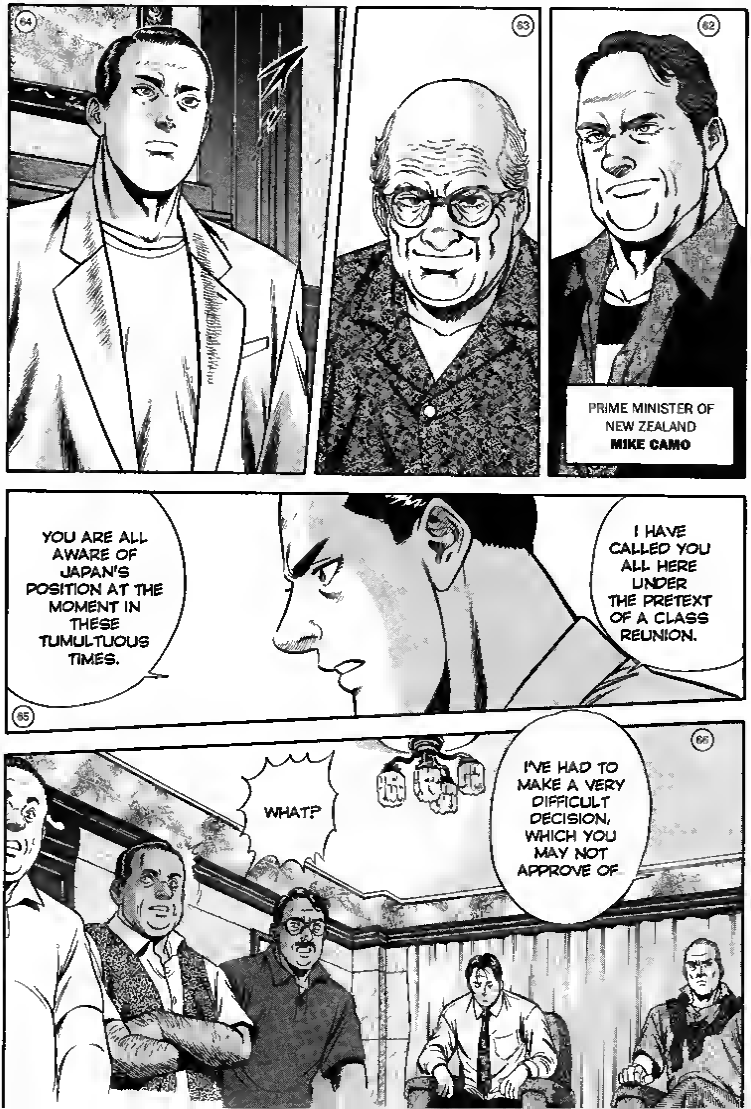
DECAY AND CORRUPTION
THE DISAVOWAL OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION AND THE FOLLOWING MODERNIZATION HAS CAUSED NOTHING BUT...
48
WE FIRST NEED TO CONFISCATE ALL POSSESSIONS OF THOSE WHO HAVE BECOME SLAVES OF CAPITALISM UNDER CHAIRMAN WONG!
47
49
THE RESTORATION OF PURE COMMUNISM ...
CHAIRMAN WONG MUST BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS.
...IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW CHINA!
50

52

SINGAPORE
51


53

56
PRESIDENT OF BANK OF NEW HONG KONG
JACKIE HOI
55
MINISTER OF DEFENSE OF SINGAPORE
JERRY LU
54
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALAYSIA
RON ROLAN
58
CROWN PRINCE OF THE KINGDOM OF THAILAND
SAWADIE
57
PROFESSOR OF INDONESIA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
CHARA SIMON
61
PRIME MINISTER OF ENGLAND
IAN MAJOR
60
CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO THE U S
GAO LIN-ANG
59
MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF AUSTRALIA
JAY DOROTHY


64
63
62
PRIME MINISTER OF NEW ZEALAND
MIKE CAMO
YOU ARE ALL AWARE OF JAPAN'S POSITION AT THE MOMENT IN THESE TUMULTUOUS TIMES.
I HAVE CALLED YOU ALL HERE UNDER THE PRETEXT OF A CLASS REUNION.
65
66
WHAT?
I'VE HAD TO MAKE A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION, WHICH YOU MAY NOT APPROVE OF.

OUR SELF-DEFENSE FORCE IS ALREADY HEADING TOWARDS PUSAN AS WE SPEAK.
WE SHALL DISPATCH OUR SELF-DEFENSE FORCE OVERSEAS TO RESCUE OUR CITIZENS
67

PHOTO BY KYODO

WE WOULD TAKE IT AS A CLEAR THREAT IF JAPAN'S SELF-DEFENSE FORCE WERE TO LEAVE ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS.
JAPAN'S MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST HAVE CLEARLY LEFT ASIAN COUNTRIES WARY.
71

BUT WILL THE OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES ALLOW THIS?
NOW THAT JAPAN NO LONGER HAS A SECURITY TREATY, THEY MUST DO THIS BY THEMSELVES.
69

WE DO NOT TRUST JAPAN
72
NOT AFTER THE WAR.
74
73
HOWEVER, WE TRUST YOU!
75
ALL OF US HERE FULLY SUPPORT THE DECISION OF PRIME MINISTER SAKURAGI!
TRUE DIPLOMACY ALL COMES DOWN TO THE HUMAN NETWORK OF INDIVIDUAL PEOPLE.
77
FIRST STEP CLEARED, SAKURAGI.
71

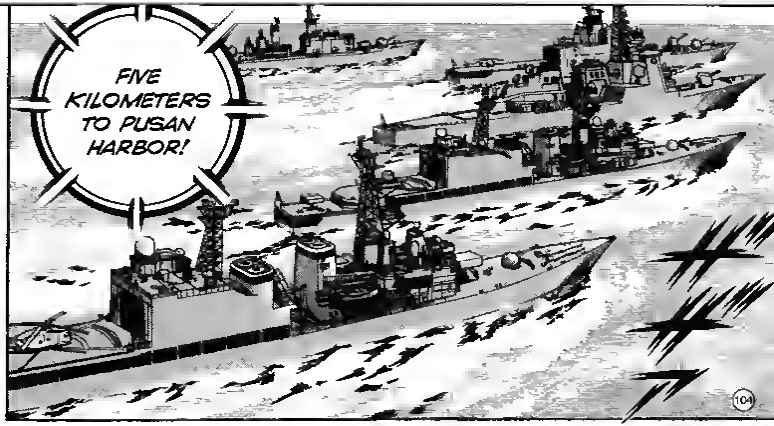
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT CHINA?
79
78
THERE'S ONE BIG ISSUE LEFT, SAKURAGI.
80
THAT'S RIGHT! IF YOU DON'T HAVE CHINA'S CONSENT, IT'S GOING TO BE A BIG PROBLEM!
GAO?
81
I'M SURE YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SPEAK TO ONE OF THE LEADERS WITHIN THE PARTY.
GAO! YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS?
84
83
82
UH, SORRY.. WHAT'S THAT?

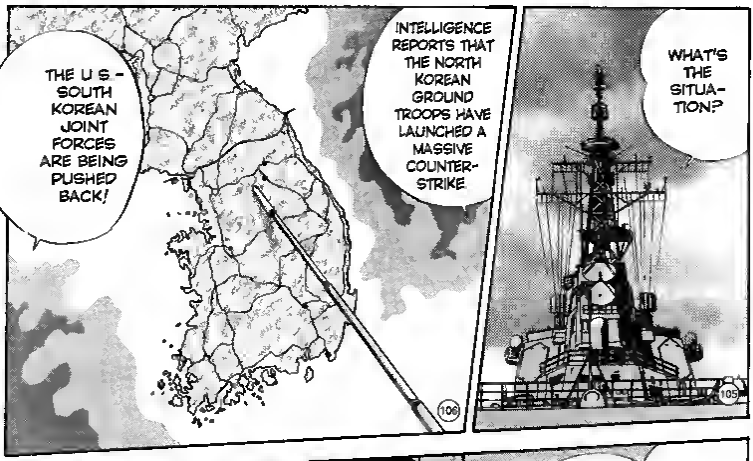
NOT ONLY THAT, JAPAN CAN END UP TRIGGERING A WORLD WAR
86
ONE WRONG MOVE AND THEY'LL BLOW JAPAN AWAY
REALISTICALLY SPEAKING, YOU CAN'T DO THINGS IN ASIA WITHOUT THE BACKING OF THE U S AND CHINA
85
87
GAO! WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR COUNTRY?
BUT CHINA HAS FAILED TO RESPOND EVEN TO THE HOTLINE!
OF COURSE, JAPAN HAS OBTAINED THE CONSENT OF SOUTH KOREA AND THE U S
88

WHO DO WE CONTACT?
TELL ME, WHO IS *REALLY* IN CHARGE IN CHINA?
91
90
SAKURAGI, ARE YOU SAYING ...?
WE?
92
THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS *CHINA!*
YES! THE HEART OF THE ASIAN CRISIS IS NO LONGER THE KOREAN PENINSULA OR TAIWAN!
93

I'M SORRY. I DON'T KNOW, EITHER.
95
I DO KNOW THIS, THOUGH
SAKURAGI, JUST AS YOU POSTULATED IN YOUR THESIS...
97
96
...CHINA MAY BE IN THE PROCESS OF SPLITTING INTO SEVEN COUNTRIES!
99
18

101
YOU PLAN TO DEFECT?
WHAT!?
I DO NOT INTEND TO RETURN TO BEIJING
100
FOR THE BIRTH OF A NEW CHINA!
NO.. I WILL RETURN TO MY HOMETOWN AND START UNDER-GROUND ACTIVITIES
102
103


FIVE KILOMETERS TO PUSAN HARBOR!
104


WHAT'S THE SITUATION?
105
INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT THE NORTH KOREAN GROUND TROOPS HAVE LAUNCHED A MASSIVE COUNTER-STRIKE
THE U.S.-SOUTH KOREAN JOINT FORCES ARE BEING PUSHED BACK!
106

107
WE HAVE ALSO NEW INFORMATION..
...THAT GUERILLA ARMIES HAVE OCCUPIED MANY OF THE CITIES!

107
COMMANDER! REPORTS HAVE COME IN FROM THE U.S
108
HMM ...
CONGRESS IS STILL DEADLOCKED OVER THE KOREAN CRISIS!
110
THE U.S. MILITARY IS HESITATING TO COMMIT TO A FULL-SCALE DEPLOYMENT OF THEIR GROUND FORCES.
GO OVER ANOTHER DAMAGE SIMULATION FOR THIS RESCUE MISSION!
ULSAN
PUSAN
TSUSHIMA STRAIT
TSUSHIMA
113
112
WE'LL SAVE 10 PERCENT OF OUR PEOPLE AT BEST.
AND WE'LL SUFFER HEAVY DAMAGE AS WELL
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE LEARNING ALL THIS ONLY AFTER WE GOT HERE.
111

TIANANMEN
BEIJING
FREE ASIA FROM THE U.S!
SHOW THEM THE POWER OF CHINA!
114
115

116

118

117

PHOTOS BY KYODO

125

URGH
WELL, WELL! THIS IS AMAZING!
NOBODY WILL KNOW!
126
127

FROM TODAY, YOU WILL BE CHAIRMAN WONG!
YOU SHALL LEARN TO BE A PERFECT IMITATION.
130
I WILL LET YOU KNOW ONE THING
CHAIRMAN WONG IS DEAD.
126
DEAD ?
129

131
IF YOU SHOULD FAIL, THE VERY FOUNDATION OF OUR GREAT NATION WILL COLLAPSE!
AND WE SHALL RETURN TO BEING A COLONY OF THE WESTERN WORLD!

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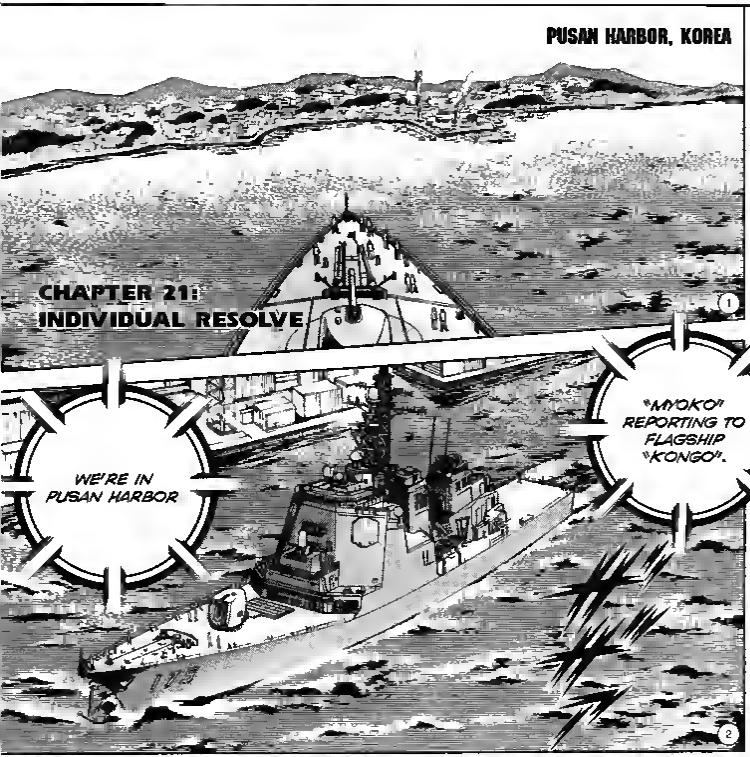
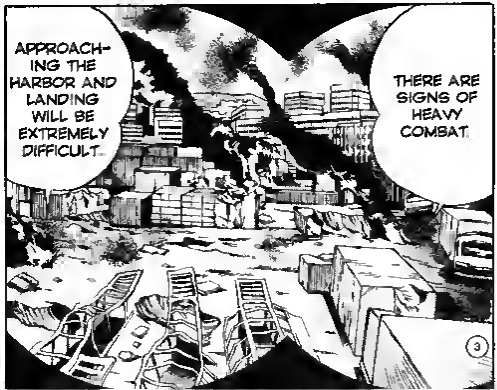
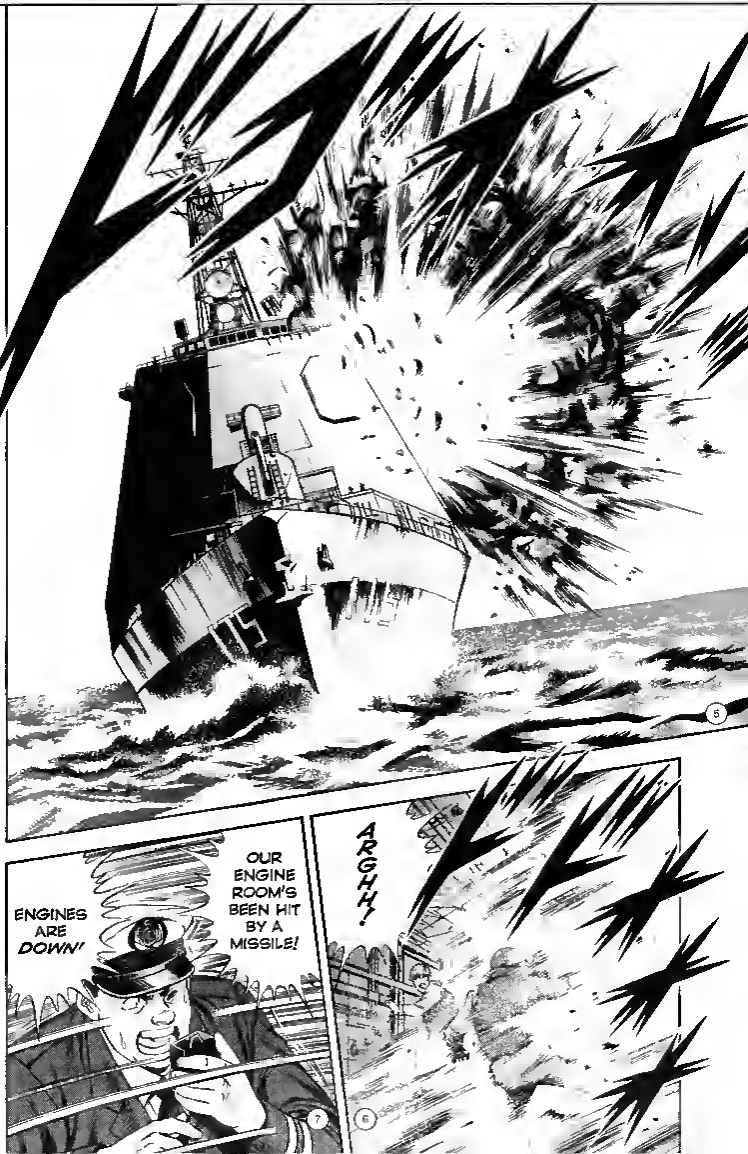

PUSAN HARBOR, KOREA
CHAPTER 21:
INDIVIDUAL RESOLVE
1
"MYOKO" REPORTING TO FLAGSHIP "KONGO".
WE'RE IN PUSAN HARBOR
2

WHAT'S THAT?
4

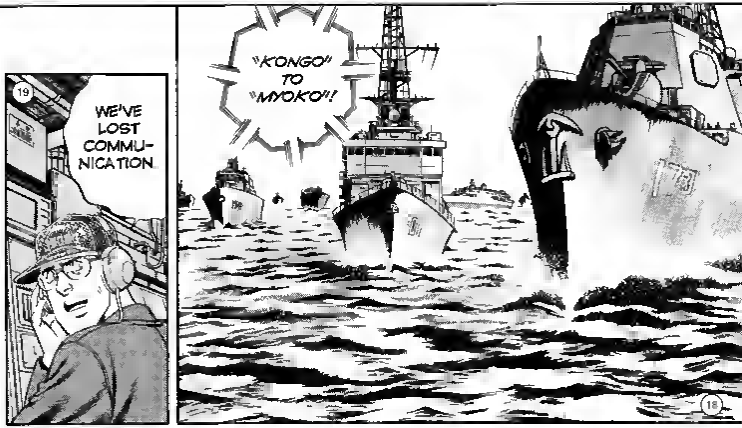

APPROACHING THE HARBOR AND LANDING WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.
THERE ARE SIGNS OF HEAVY COMBAT.
3


5
ARGHH!
OUR ENGINE ROOM'S BEEN HIT BY A MISSILE!
6
ENGINES ARE *DOWN!*
7

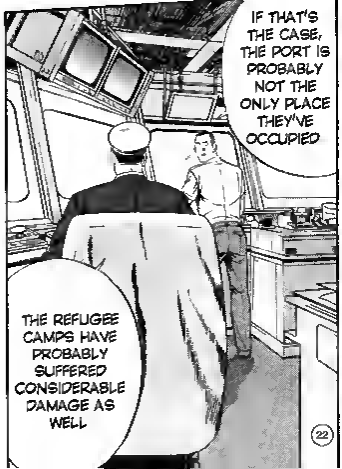
CHAPTER 21: INDIVIDUAL RESOLVE

9
10
DON
DON
PUSAN HARBOR HAS FALLEN COMPLETELY TO THE NORTH KOREAN FORCES!
THE HARBOR IS OCCUPIED BY A MASSIVE NUMBER OF TANKS AND ARTILLERY UNITS!
12
WHAT ?
13
11

14
IMPOSSIBLE! THEY'RE NOT NORTH KOREAN!
THEY'RE CHINESE!
15
16
17


19
WE'VE LOST COMMUNICATION
"KONGO" TO "MYOKO"!
18

WHAT'S GOING ON?
20
THE CHINESE MILITARY?


IF THAT'S THE CASE, THE PORT IS PROBABLY NOT THE ONLY PLACE THEY'VE OCCUPIED
THE REFUGEE CAMPS HAVE PROBABLY SUFFERED CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE AS WELL
22

21
IT LOOKS LIKE CHINA WAS THE REASON FOR NORTH KOREA'S RECOVERY
JAPANESE RESCUE OPERATION, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: KAJIO TAKEYOSHI

23
NOT ONLY WILL IT BE A DIFFICULT MISSION, WE CAN'T BE CERTAIN HOW MANY ARE STILL ALIVE
24
25
WHAT ?
26
27

THERE ARE PEOPLE WAITING TO BE RESCUED, EVEN IF IT'S ONLY A FEW
THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE!
30
COMMANDER KAJIO! WE HAVE TO ACT NOW!
KATAGIRI ?
2B
2F
RED CARD WILL SECURE THE PERIME-TER OF THE REFUGEE CAMPS
WE'LL FIND THE REFUGEES AND GET THEM TO A LANDING POINT.
THEN WE'LL NEED ALL OF THE HELICOPTERS TO COME IN AT ONCE AND FLY THE REFUGEES OUT.
31

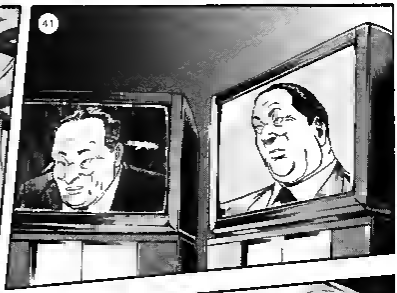
35
HOWEVER, THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT WE NEED TO DO
IT WILL BE A DANGEROUS MISSION. GOOD LUCK!
32
I AM THE COMMANDER HERE!
CLICK
33
YOU ARE IN NO POSITION TO GIVE ME ORDERS.
34

36
JUST WAIT UNTIL WE'RE BACK IN JAPAN!
KATAGIRI! EVEN IF WE WERE CLASSMATES IN THE ACADEMY, IT'S STILL A VIOLATION TO ARGUE WITH YOUR COMMANDER.
HEH... ROGER, SIR!
38
37

BEIJING, CHINA
39

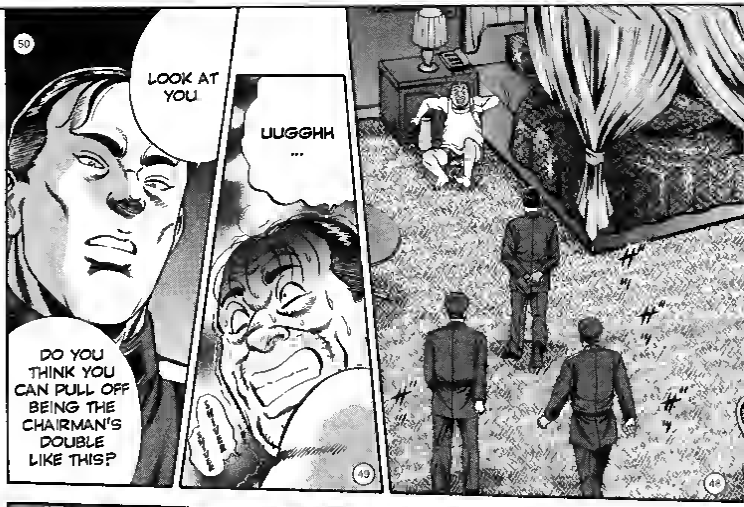
40
CHAIRMAN'S RESIDENCE, SECOND BEDROOM

FIDGET
FIDGET
UNNGHH.
43

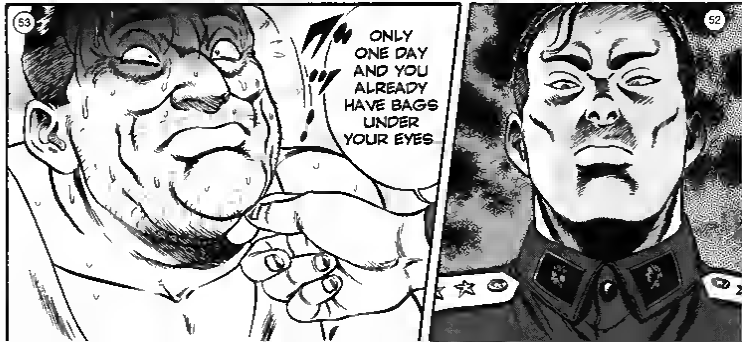

41

42

I CAN'T SLEEP!
45
44
AAAGH!
47
46


50
LOOK AT YOU
UUGGHH ...
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN PULL OFF BEING THE CHAIRMAN'S DOUBLE LIKE THIS?
49
48

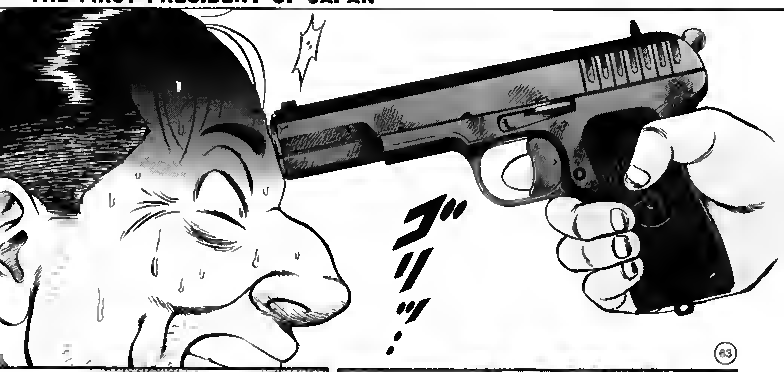
PLEASE! YOU GOTTA LET ME GO!
I CAN'T DO NOTHIN' LIKE THIS! THEY'RE ALL GONNA KNOW!
51


53
ONLY ONE DAY AND YOU ALREADY HAVE BAGS UNDER YOUR EYES
52

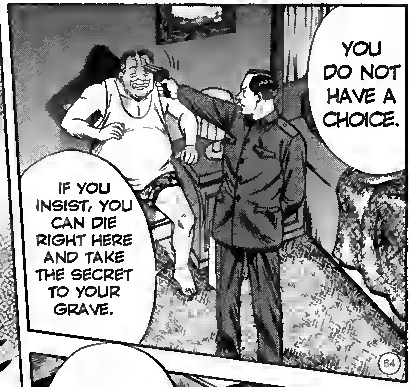
BUT THIS IS PERFECT.
54
YOU ARE GOING TO BECOME ILL.
ILL?
WHA'DU YA MEAN?
55
DON'T WORRY ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LIE IN THIS BED.
56
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO SEE ANYONE.
REALLY? THAT'S ALL I GOTTA DO?
57
HOWEVER! THERE IS JUST ONE THING YOU MUST DO BEFORE THAT.
58
WHAT'S THAT?
59

IN THE NAME OF OUR PEOPLE ...
... YOU MUST ORDER THE INVASION OF TAIWAN!
60

THE... THE...
THE INVASION OF TAIWAN?
61
YOU'RE KIDDIN'! NO WAY I CAN SAY NOTHIN' LIKE THAT!
I...I QUIT! I CAN'T DO THIS NO MORE!
62


ゴリ…

63
ドゥ…
GRIM

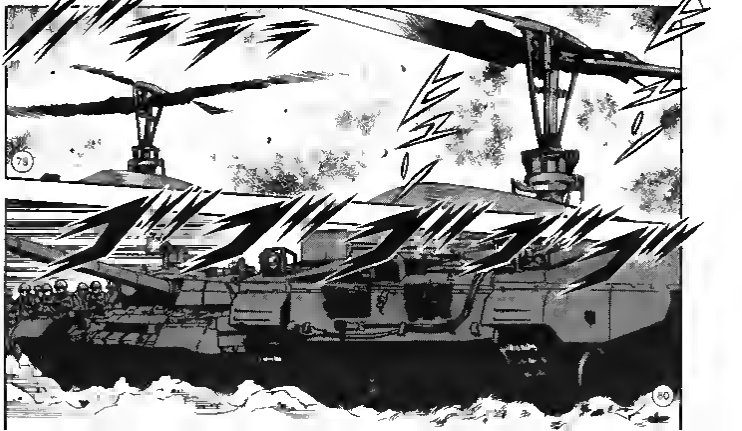

YOU DO NOT HAVE A CHOICE.
IF YOU INSIST, YOU CAN DIE RIGHT HERE AND TAKE THE SECRET TO YOUR GRAVE.
64

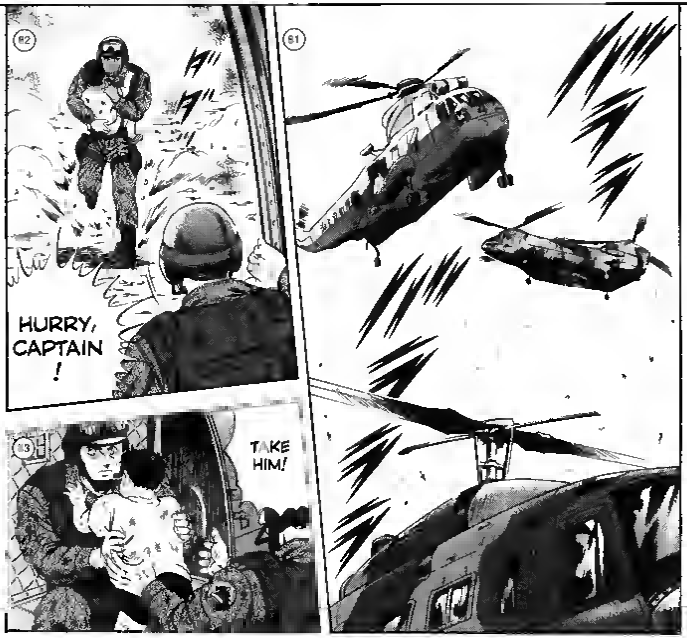
WE HAVE PLENTY OF OTHERS WHO CAN REPLACE YOU!
SHIVER
65

PUSAN REFUGEE CAMP, SOUTH KOREA
67
68
70
HURRY !
69

72
HOW MANY DO WE HAVE?
12, SIR!
THIS WAY!
71
76
WHAT?
WAIT! MY SON...!
THIS IS ALL WE COULD MANAGE WE HAVE TO HURRY OR WE'LL BE SURROUNDED COMPLETELY!
73
DAMN!
75
ゴゴゴゴゴ
74

GET AIR-BORNE! NOW!
TAKE OFF!
CAPTAIN !
78
77

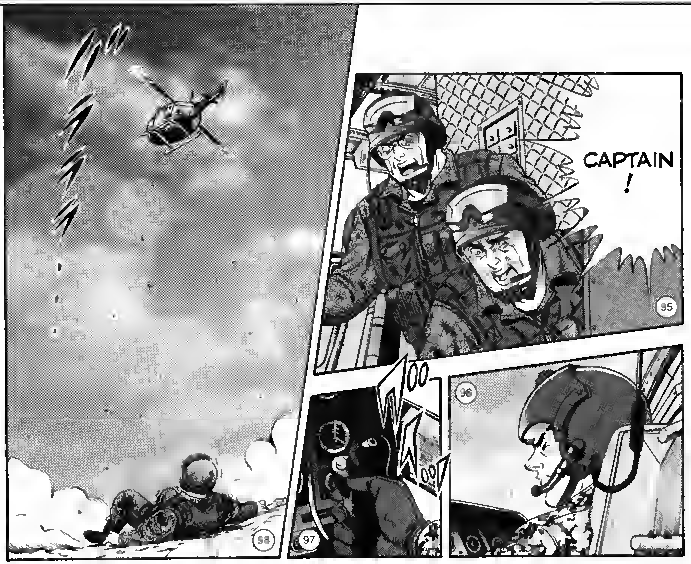

79
80


82
HURRY, CAPTAIN!
81
83
TAKE HIM!

OK, TAKE OFF!
84
85

UGH!
!
CAPTAIN
!

GO!
FORGET ABOUT ME!
90
CAPTAIN!
LAND THE CHOPPER!
91
92
WE'RE NOT LEAVING WITHOUT YOU, CAPTAIN!
LAND THE CHOPPER! NOW!!
GO!
DIDN'T YOU HEAR MY ORDERS?
HUH?
94
93


CAPTAIN
!
95
96
97
98

99

100

104
SAKURAGI
!
IT'S UP TO YOU NOW!
CLACK
101
102
103

THE FOLLOWING DAY

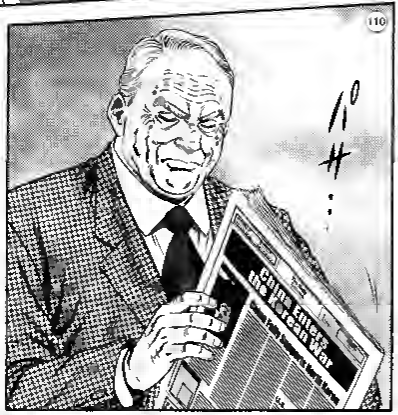
KATSURAHAMA BEACH,
KOCHI PREFECTURE

The Daily Gutsoon

China Enters the Korean War

China Fully Supports North Korea

U.S. to Withdraw?



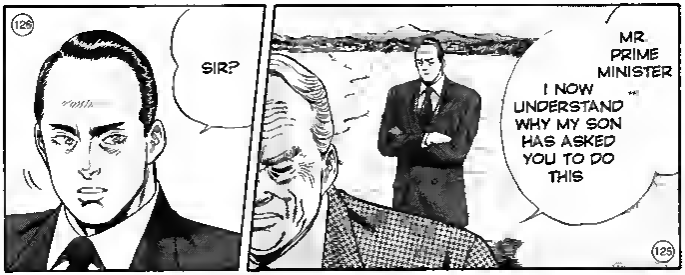
Japanese Rescue Mission Faces Difficulties

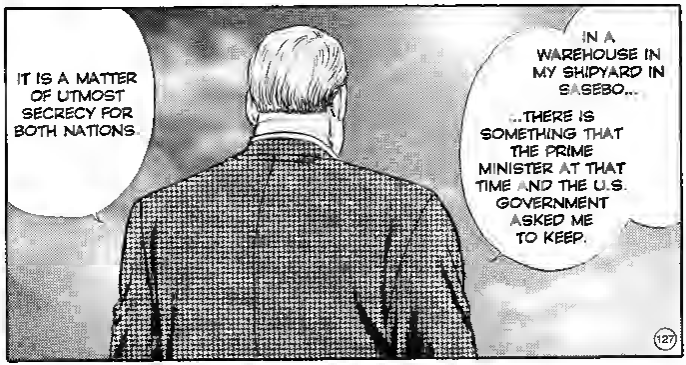
Self-Defense Force Suffers Casualties

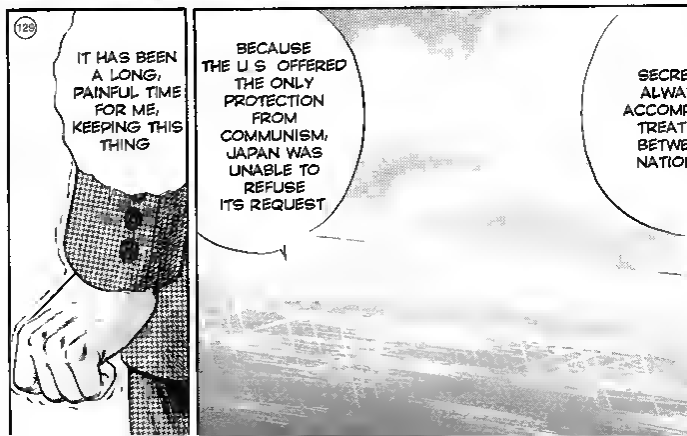
Pusan Harbor

MR. PRIME MINISTER!
112
BUT I NEEDED TO BRING YOU THIS
115
I DO NOT INTEND TO SAY MUCH
114
113
THIS IS...
TO MY FATHER
116
THIS IS MY SON'S...!
WHEN A MEMBER OF A SPECIAL TASK UNIT IS SENT TO THE FRONT LINE, HE ENTRUSTS HIS WILL TO HIS COMMANDER.
HE CAN ALSO DESIGNATE THE PERSON WHO DELIVERS IT TO HIS FAMILY.
117

AND THE FOOL ASKED HIS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF TO DO THIS?
119
118
121
120
WOOH
A BLANK WILL?
122
124
TORU...I SEE...
123

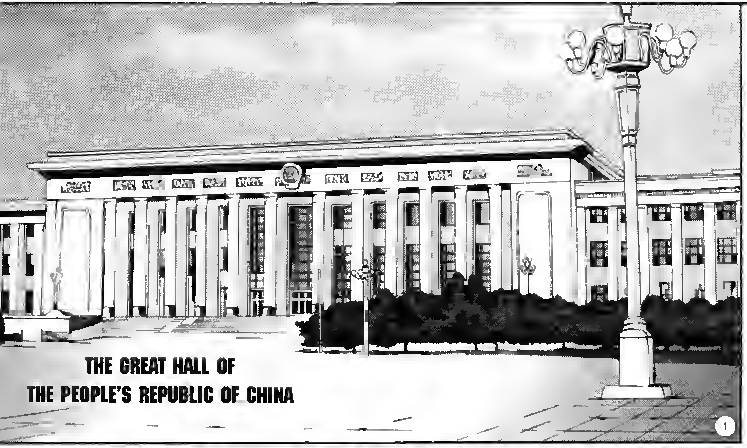

126
SIR?
MR. PRIME MINISTER ... I NOW UNDERSTAND WHY MY SON HAS ASKED YOU TO DO THIS
125


IT IS A MATTER OF UTMOST SECRECY FOR BOTH NATIONS.
IN A WAREHOUSE IN MY SHIPYARD IN SASEBO...
...THERE IS SOMETHING THAT THE PRIME MINISTER AT THAT TIME AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ASKED ME TO KEEP.
127


129
IT HAS BEEN A LONG, PAINFUL TIME FOR ME, KEEPING THIS THING
BECAUSE THE U S OFFERED THE ONLY PROTECTION FROM COMMUNISM, JAPAN WAS UNABLE TO REFUSE ITS REQUEST
SECRETS ALWAYS ACCOMPANY TREATIES BETWEEN NATIONS
128

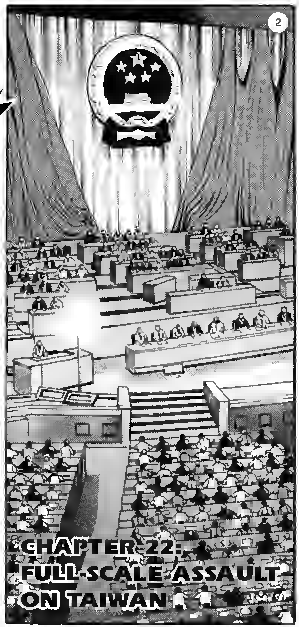
YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THIS...
130
...BUT IT IS A NUCLEAR BOMB.
WE ARE FACING THE GREATEST EMERGENCY IN JAPAN'S HISTORY.
MR. PRIME MINISTER, WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO?
131
132

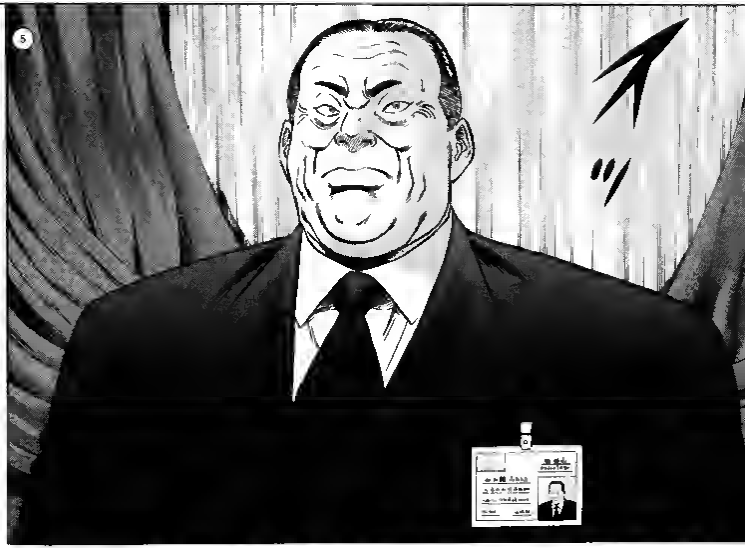
THE CONDITION FOR INDEPENDENCE
FROM AMERICA
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
日本国初代大統領・桜木健一郎
TM


THE GREAT HALL OF
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
1

3

4


2
CHAPTER 22:
FULL-SCALE ASSAULT
ON TAIWAN


5

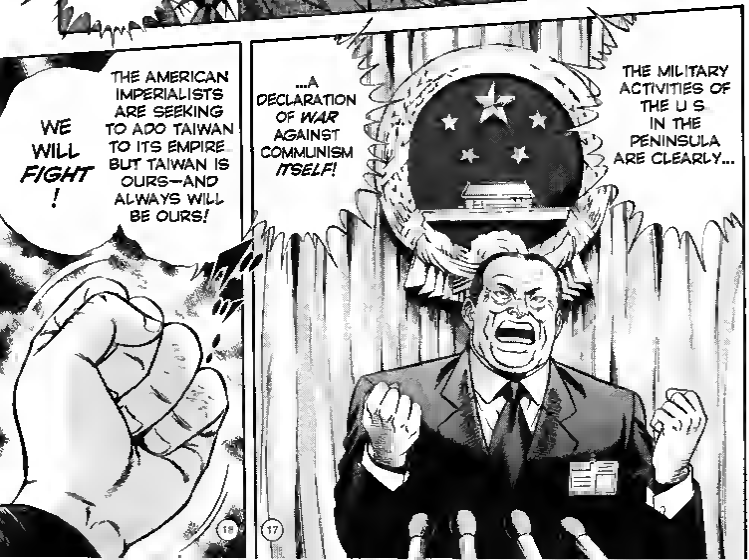
6
YOU HAD BETTER DO A GOOD JOB DOUBLING AS THE CHAIRMAN!
OR ELSE EVERYONE IN YOUR FAMILY IS DEAD!
8
7

CHAPTER 22:
FULL-SCALE ASSAULT ON TAIWAN

10
11
12
PEOPLE OF CHINA!
13
14
MR CHAIRMAN!

WE CAN NO LONGER OVERLOOK THIS ACT OF AGGRESSION BY THE U.S.!
THE KOREAN INCIDENT BRINGS UPON OUR GREAT COUNTRY TREMENDOUS CHALLENGES!
15

DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE REAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS?
16
THEY HAVE REPEATEDLY ATTACKED OUR ALLY NORTH KOREA. THEY HAVE RELOCATED THEIR MILITARY BASES CLOSER TO OUR BORDERS AND FOR WHAT? ALL SO THAT THEY MAY DOMINATE THE REGION!

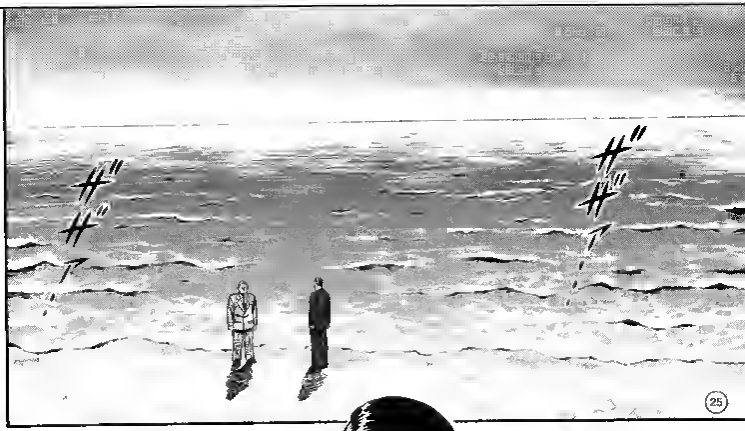

WE WILL FIGHT!
THE AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS ARE SEEKING TO ADD TAIWAN TO ITS EMPIRE BUT TAIWAN IS OURS—AND ALWAYS WILL BE OURS!
18
...A DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST COMMUNISM ITSELF!
THE MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF THE U S IN THE PENINSULA ARE CLEARLY...
17

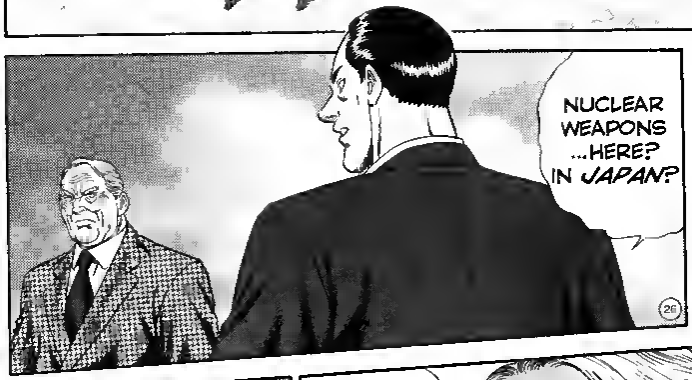
19
WE MUST STOP THE U.S. OR THERE IS NO FUTURE!
WE MUST PROTECT OUR GREAT NATION FROM THE CLUTCHES OF THE IMPERIALISTS!
WE WILL LAUNCH A FULL-SCALE ATTACK ON TAIWAN!
VICTORY TO COMMU-NISM!
20
21
VICTORY TO COMMU-NISM!

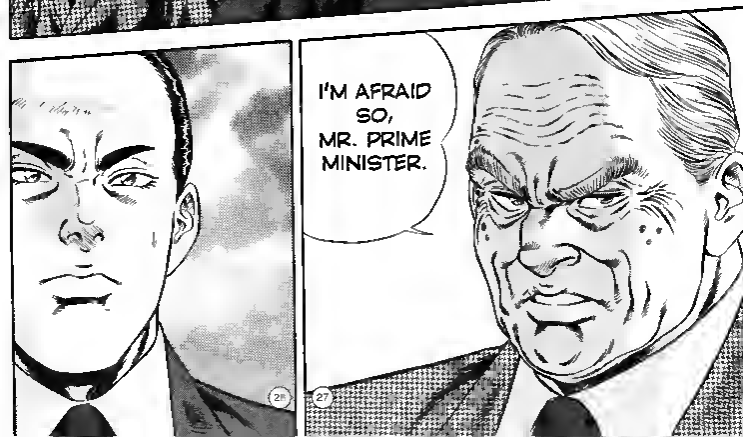
22

23

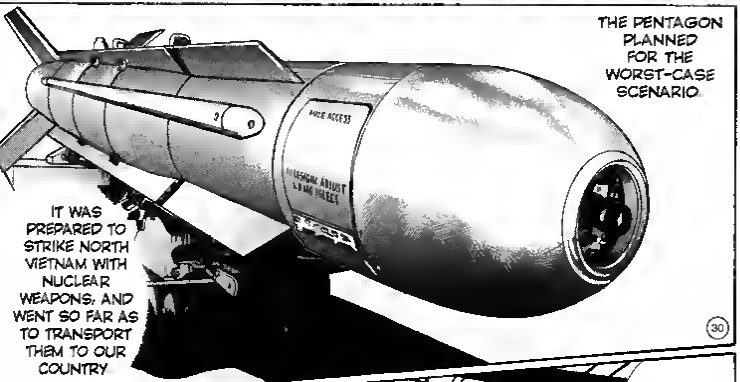
24
GRIN

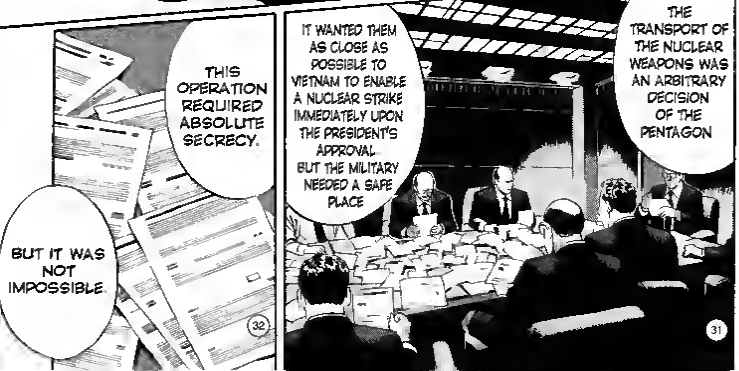

H"
H"
H"
H"
25

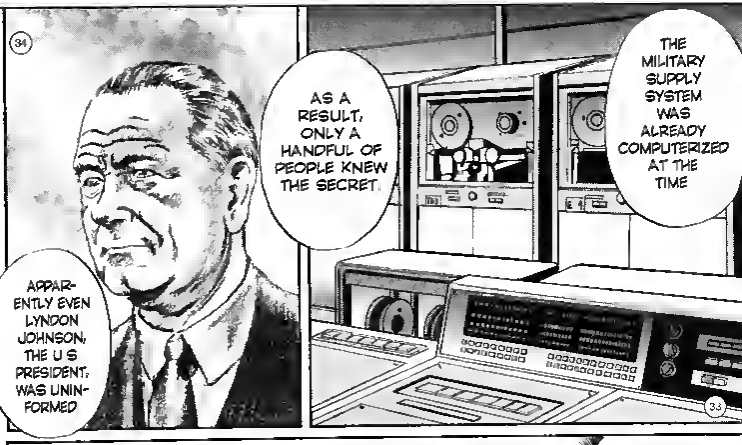

NUCLEAR WEAPONS ...HERE? IN JAPAN?
26

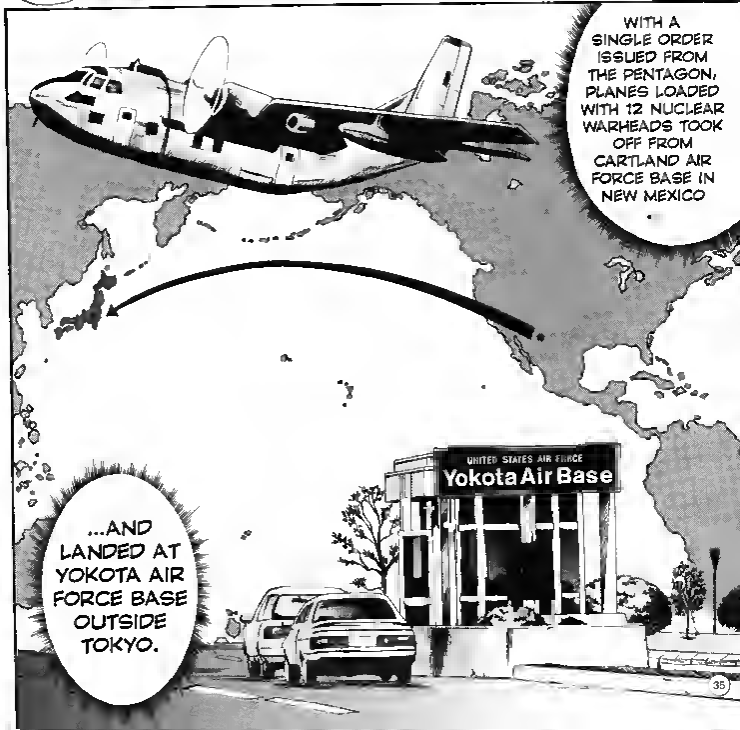

I'M AFRAID SO, MR. PRIME MINISTER.
28
27

IN 1968, THE U.S. FORCES SUFFERED SERIOUS SETBACKS DURING THE BATTLE FOR THE KESON MILITARY BASE.
THEY WERE BROUGHT IN DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.
PHOTO BY KYODO
29


THE PENTAGON PLANNED FOR THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO.
IT WAS PREPARED TO STRIKE NORTH VIETNAM WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND WENT SO FAR AS TO TRANSPORT THEM TO OUR COUNTRY
30


THIS OPERATION REQUIRED ABSOLUTE SECRECY.
BUT IT WAS NOT IMPOSSIBLE.
32
IT WANTED THEM AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO VIETNAM TO ENABLE A NUCLEAR STRIKE IMMEDIATELY UPON THE PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL.
BUT THE MILITARY NEEDED A SAFE PLACE.
THE TRANSPORT OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS WAS AN ARBITRARY DECISION OF THE PENTAGON
31


34
APPARENTLY EVEN LYNDON JOHNSON, THE U.S. PRESIDENT, WAS UNINFORMED
AS A RESULT, ONLY A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE KNEW THE SECRET.
THE MILITARY SUPPLY SYSTEM WAS ALREADY COMPUTERIZED AT THE TIME
33


WITH A SINGLE ORDER ISSUED FROM THE PENTAGON, PLANES LOADED WITH 12 NUCLEAR WARHEADS TOOK OFF FROM CARTLAND AIR FORCE BASE IN NEW MEXICO
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Yokota Air Base
...AND LANDED AT YOKOTA AIR FORCE BASE OUTSIDE TOKYO.
35

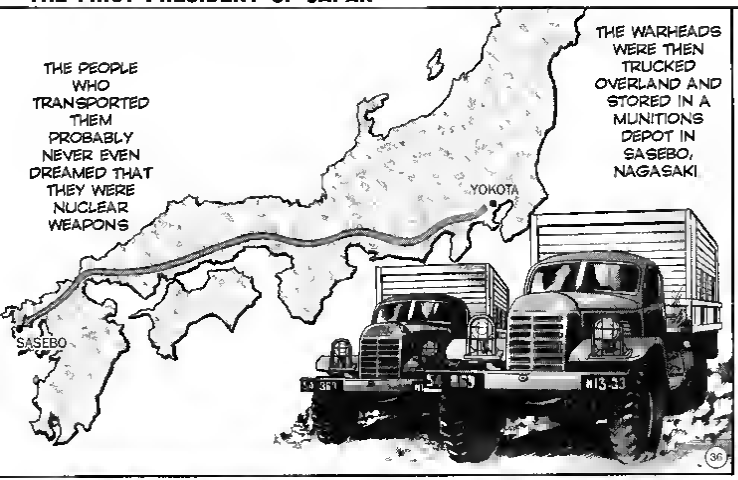

THE PEOPLE WHO TRANSPORTED THEM PROBABLY NEVER EVEN DREAMED THAT THEY WERE NUCLEAR WEAPONS
THE WARHEADS WERE THEN TRUCKED OVERLAND AND STORED IN A MUNITIONS DEPOT IN SASEBO, NAGASAKI
YOKOTA
SASEBO
36

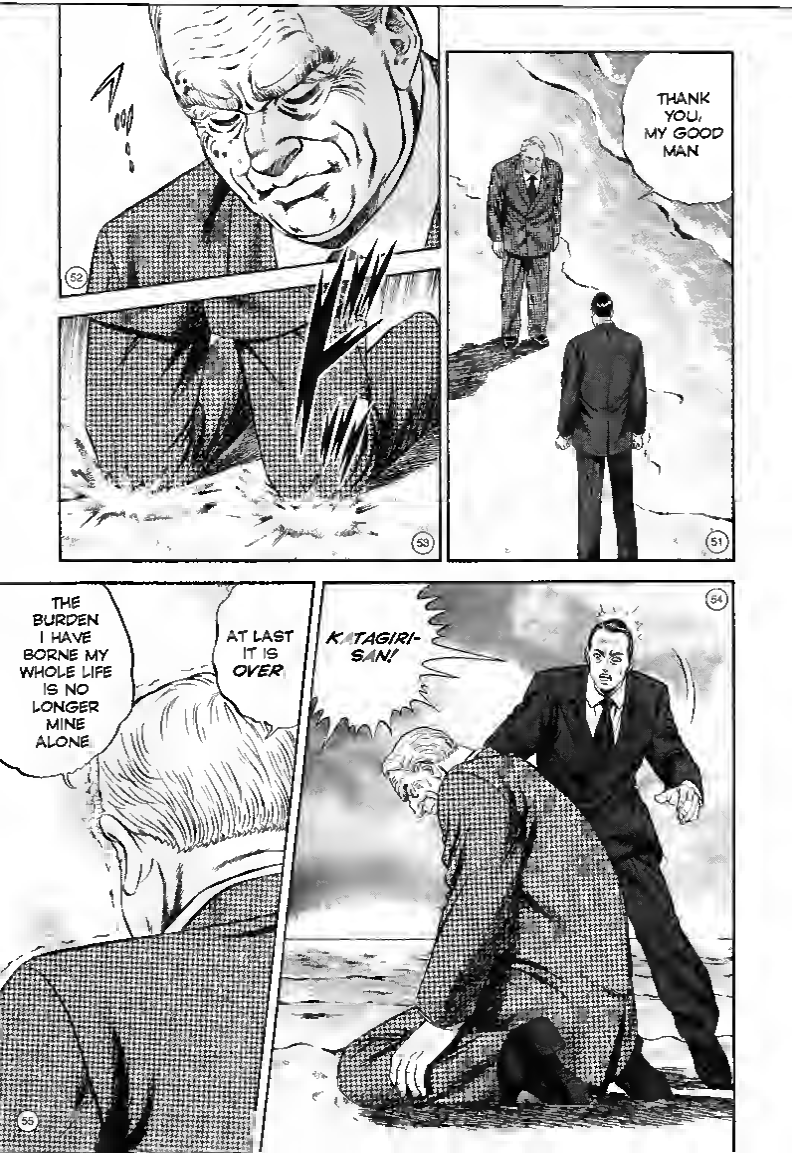
PHOTO BY KYODO
NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE U.S MILITARY WAS ALARMED THE PENTAGON DID NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IT SECRETLY SHIPPED HERE.
HOWEVER, DUE TO FERVENT ANTI-WAR MOVEMENTS, THE U.S WITHDREW FROM VIETNAM, AND FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES THE WAR ENDED IN DEFEAT.
37

AND WHAT THEY LEFT BEHIND AFTER THAT WAR STILL SLEEPS IN ONE OF MY WAREHOUSES IN SASEBO
SO THE U.S. COMMANDER IN JAPAN DIRECTLY CONTACTED MY FATHER, WHO HAD THE LARGEST SHIPYARD IN THE COUNTRY.

40
THAT... THAT CAN'T BE!
39
41
I AM NOT CERTAIN WHETHER THOSE 12 WARHEADS ARE IN WORKING CONDITION AFTER ALMOST 30 YEARS.
BUT THIS IS A MATTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY.
I CANNOT TAKE THIS SECRET TO MY GRAVE!
42

JUST HOW MANY PEOPLE KNOW?
WHO ELSE KNOWS ABOUT THIS?
44
43
45
THOSE WHO KNEW ABOUT THIS ARE ALL DEAD NOW.
THE COMMANDER OF THE TIME PASSED AWAY THREE YEARS AGO
THEREFORE, THE ONLY ONES WHO KNOW THIS ARE ME...
...AND YOU, MR. PRIME MINISTER!
46

I HAVE LITTLE TIME LEFT
PLEASE FORGIVE ME... I COULDN'T *TRUST* YOUR PREDECES-SORS
47
48
SPLASH
49
YOU HAVE PROTECTED THIS SECRET WITH YOUR LIFE.
I'LL TAKE CHARGE OF IT FROM HERE.
50


THANK YOU, MY GOOD MAN
51
52
53
KATAGIRI-SAN!
54
AT LAST IT IS OVER
THE BURDEN I HAVE BORNE MY WHOLE LIFE IS NO LONGER MINE ALONE
55

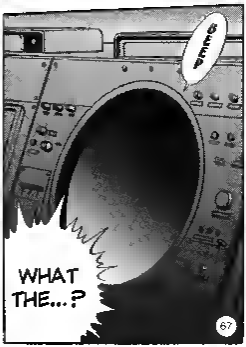
57
TORU BROUGHT US TOGETHER
IT WAS HIS ONE AND ONLY FILIAL ACT.
56
PLOP
HE AND I WERE ALWAYS AT ODDS
NEVER *ONCE* DID WE HAVE A REAL FATHER-TO-SON TALK.
58
HOW COULD YOU DIE *BEFORE* ME LIKE THAT?
YOU FOOL... YOU...
59

HOW.. HOW DID MY SON DIE?
I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW JUST ONE THING
61
60
YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF HIM. THE NATION IS.
BRAVELY. IN THE LINE OF FIRE.
62
TORU...
63
64

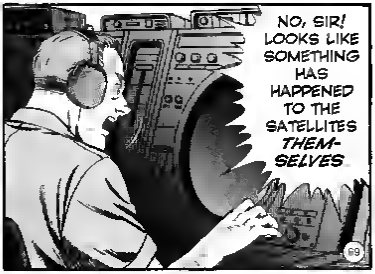
OFF THE STRAIT OF TAIWAN
7TH FLEET REPORTING TO CENTRAL COMMAND!
65

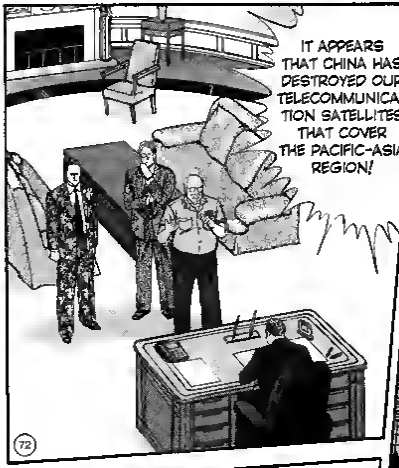
66
WE HAVE ALSO CONFIRMATION THAT SOME SHIPS ARE EQUIPPED WITH NUCLEAR DEVICES!
A LARGE CHINESE NAVAL FLEET HAS ASSEMBLED IN THE STRAIT OF TAIWAN!

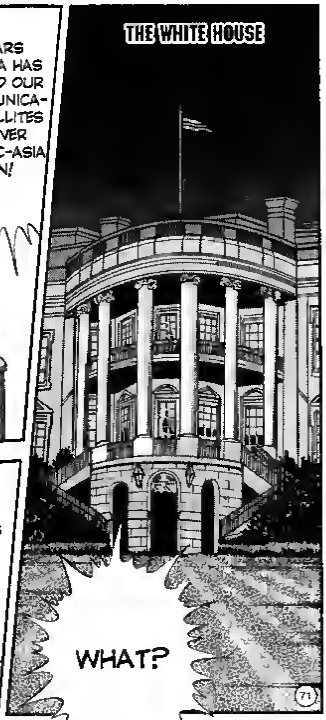
WHAT? IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH OUR EQUIPMENT?
COMMANDER! WE'VE BEEN CUT OFF!
WE'VE LOST COMMUNICATION WITH OUR SATELLITES
68


BEEPING
WHAT THE...?
67

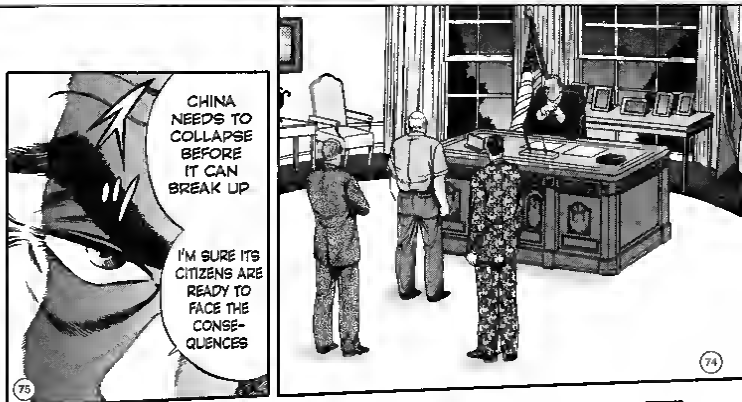
THAT CAN'T BE...
70

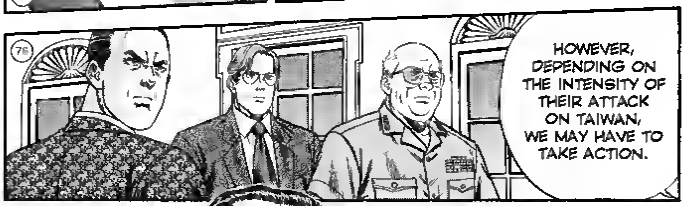

NO, SIR! LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TO THE SATELLITES THEMSELVES
69


IT APPEARS THAT CHINA HAS DESTROYED OUR TELECOMMUNICATION SATELLITES THAT COVER THE PACIFIC-ASIA REGION!
72

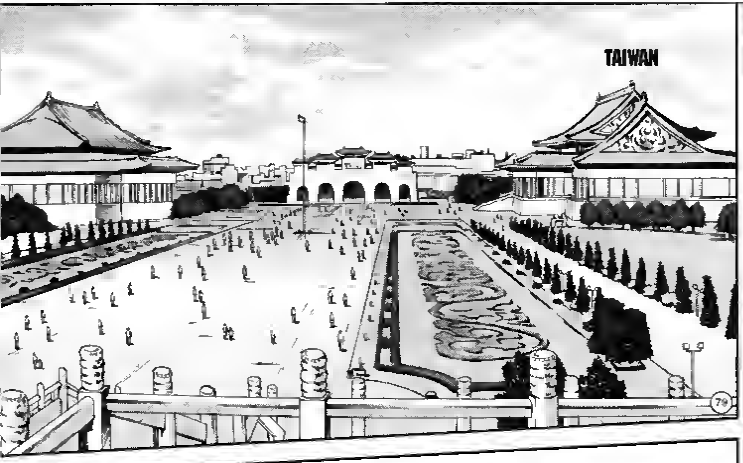

THE WHITE HOUSE
WHAT?
71

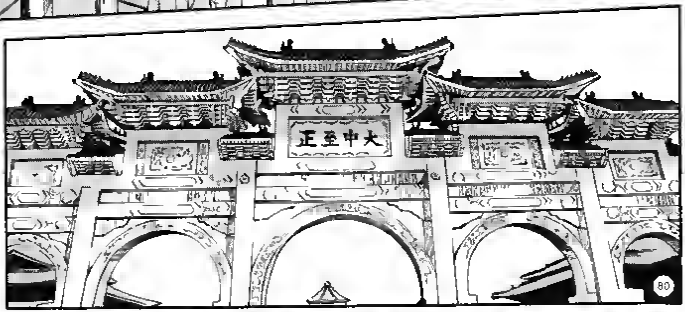
MR PRESIDENT! THIS MEANS THEY'RE SERIOUS ABOUT INVADING TAIWAN.
73


CHINA NEEDS TO COLLAPSE BEFORE IT CAN BREAK UP
I'M SURE ITS CITIZENS ARE READY TO FACE THE CONSE-QUENCES
75
74

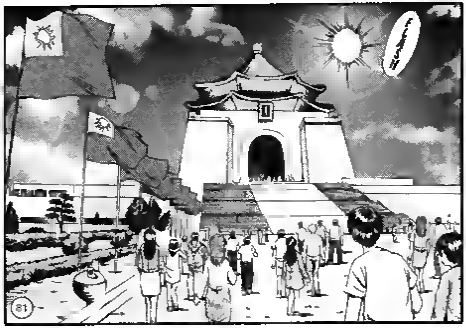

76
HOWEVER, DEPENDING ON THE INTENSITY OF THEIR ATTACK ON TAIWAN, WE MAY HAVE TO TAKE ACTION.

MOBILIZE OUR REMAINING FORCES FOR TAIWAN'S DEFENSE NEAR OKINAWA!
AND SEND AN OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION TO JAPAN IMMEDIATELY!
ASSEMBLE THE ENTIRE 7TH FLEET AT THE STRAIT OF TAIWAN!
MR PRESIDENT YOUR ORDERS?
77
78

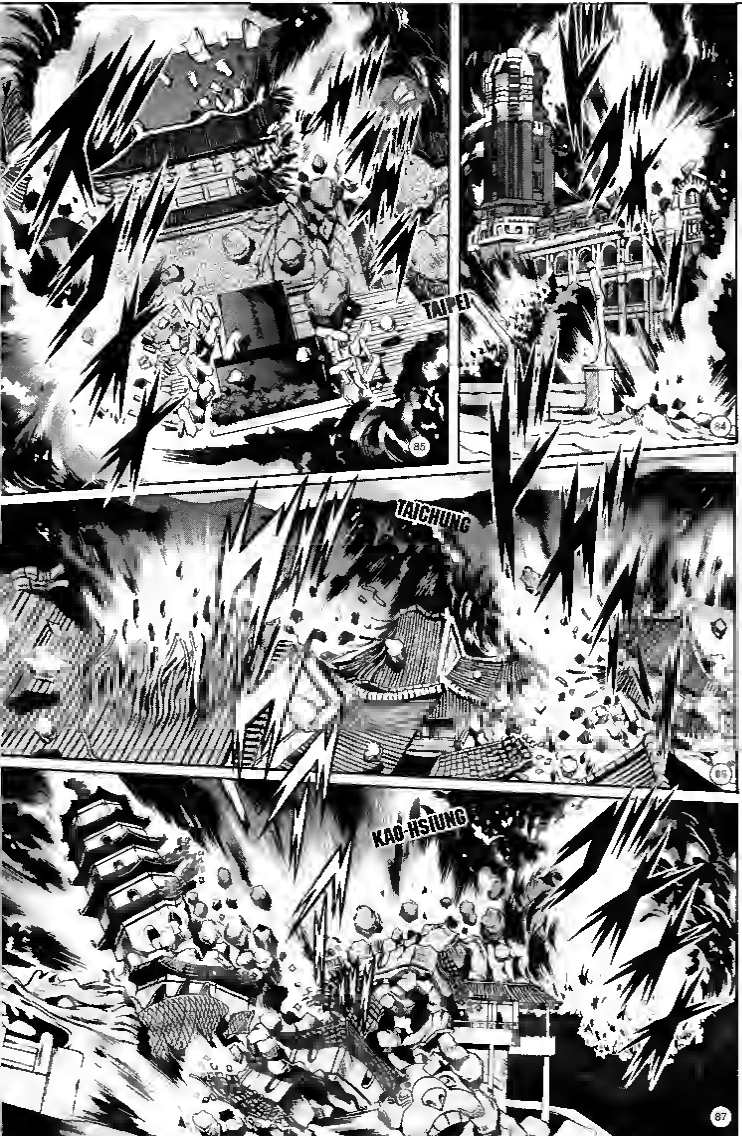

TAIWAN
79

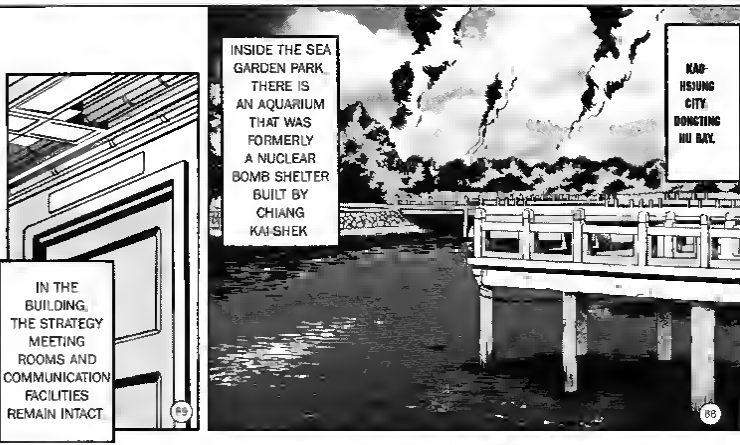

大中至正
80

HUH?
82


81

正至中大

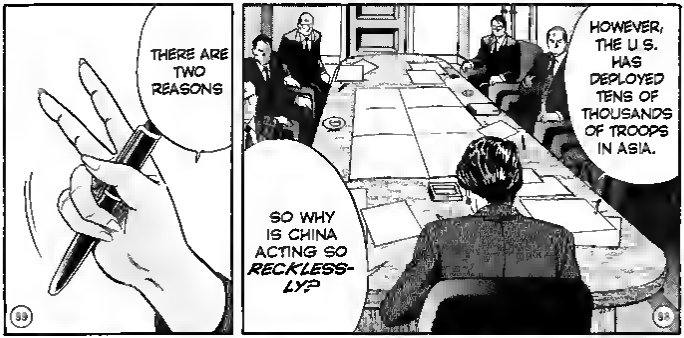

TAIPEI
84
85
TAICHUNG
86
KAO-HSIUNG
87


KAO-HSIUNG CITY, DONGTING HU BAY.
INSIDE THE SEA GARDEN PARK, THERE IS AN AQUARIUM THAT WAS FORMERLY A NUCLEAR BOMB SHELTER BUILT BY CHIANG KAI-SHEK
IN THE BUILDING, THE STRATEGY MEETING ROOMS AND COMMUNICATION FACILITIES REMAIN INTACT.
88
89

ACCORDING TO REPORTS, WE HAVE LOST ALL OF OUR MISSILE AND COMMUNICATION BASES. OUR GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS IN TAIPEI HAVE ALL BUT CEASED TO EXIST
90

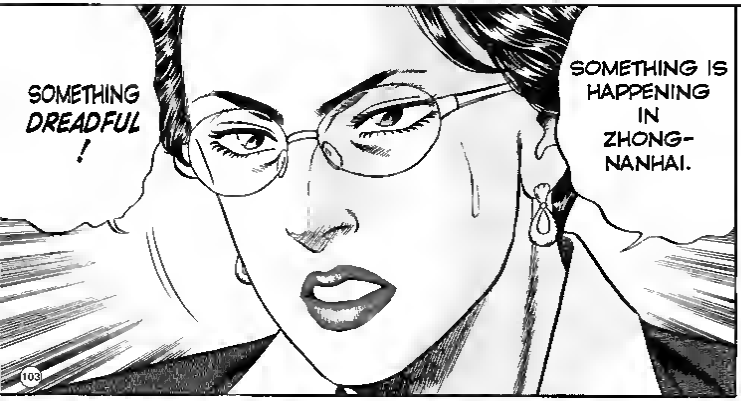
IT HAPPENED DURING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING. WE DON'T KNOW IF PRESIDENT LIN OR OTHERS ARE STILL ALIVE
92
WHERE IS THE PRESIDENT ?
91

93
HOW CAN THIS HAPPEN?
94
CHIEF! YOU ARE THE ONLY CONFIRMED SURVIVOR WHO CAN ISSUE ORDERS TO THE GOVERNMENT —AND THE MILITARY!
WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?
STAY CALM. WE MUST FIRST CLEARLY GRASP THE SITUATION.
95
CHIEF OF THE SECURITY BUREAU OF TAIWAN: LI MEI-FENG
THEIR ONLY OBJECTIVE CAN BE TO THREATEN OFF THE U.S.
97
WHAT DOES CHINA GAIN BY ATTACKING US?
THUMP
THUMP
A WAR IS NOT FOUGHT ON IMPULSE
98


THERE ARE TWO REASONS
99
SO WHY IS CHINA ACTING SO *RECKLESSLY?*
HOWEVER, THE U.S. HAS DEPLOYED TENS OF THOUSANDS OF TROOPS IN ASIA.
98

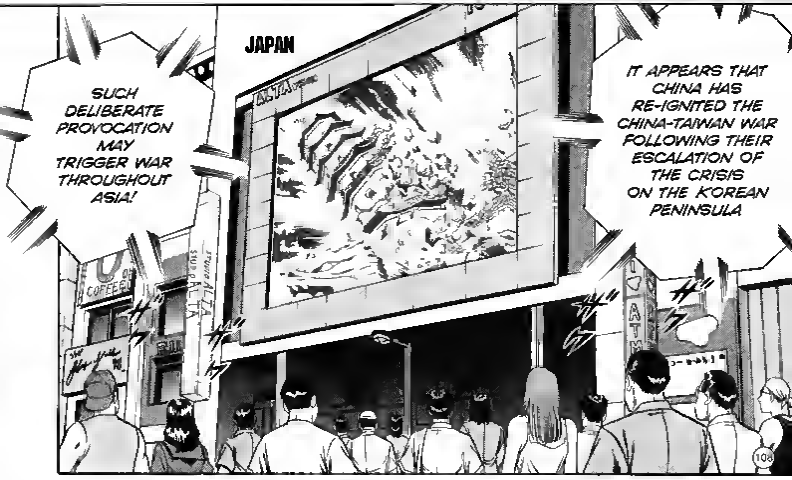
THE OTHER IS THAT THEIR MILITARY TECHNOLOGY HAS ADVANCED. THEY MUST HAVE DEVELOPED AN EFFECTIVE MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM, WHICH WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT.
ONE IS THAT THEY WISH TO SETTLE THEIR DOMESTIC TURMOIL THROUGH MILITARY ACTIONS.
100

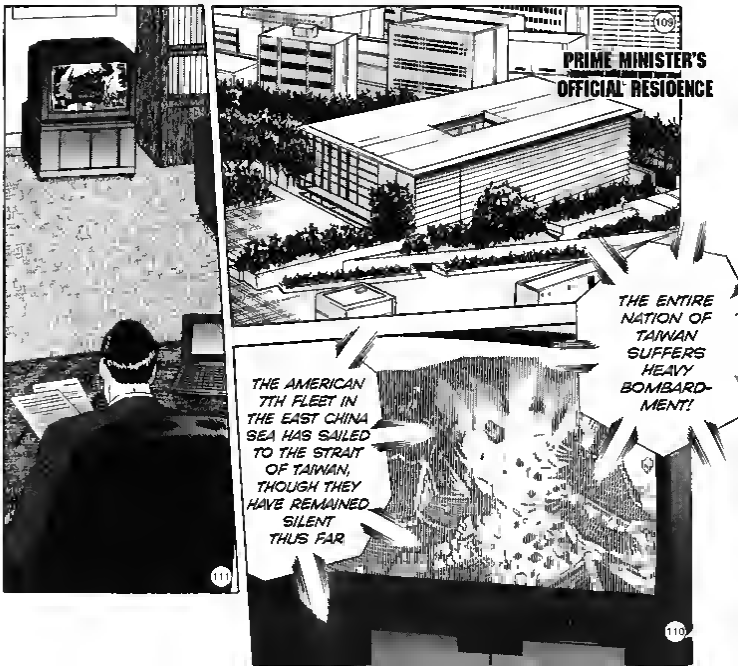
WE MUST ASSUME THE WORST IS YET TO COME.
SOURCES REVEAL THE GROWING MIGHT OF THEIR MILITARY.
EITHER WAY, THIS IS HIGHLY UNEXPECTED AND IRRATIONAL OF CHAIRMAN WONG, WHO UNTIL NOW HAS EMPHASIZED A POLICY OF REFORM AND FREEDOM.
102
101


SOMETHING DREADFUL!
SOMETHING IS HAPPENING IN ZHONG-NANHAI.
103

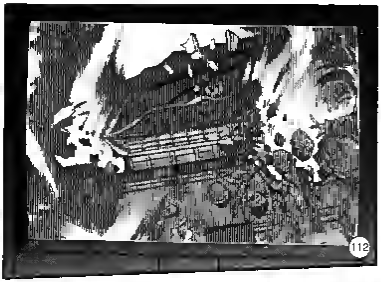
104

SO NOW WHAT?
IN ANY CASE, PLEASE CONTACT THE U.S.
105
OUR COMMU-NICATION FACILITIES ARE ALL DESTROYED AND CHINA IS JAMMING OUR SIGNALS.
106
107


JAPAN
SUCH DELIBERATE PROVOCATION MAY TRIGGER WAR THROUGHOUT ASIA!
IT APPEARS THAT CHINA HAS RE-IGNITED THE CHINA-TAIWAN WAR FOLLOWING THEIR ESCALATION OF THE CRISIS ON THE K'OREAN PENINSULA
COFFEE
104


109
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE
THE ENTIRE NATION OF TAIWAN SUFFERS HEAVY BOMBARDMENT!
THE AMERICAN 7TH FLEET IN THE EAST CHINA SEA HAS SAILED TO THE STRAIT OF TAIWAN, THOUGH THEY HAVE REMAINED SILENT THUS FAR
111
110

113

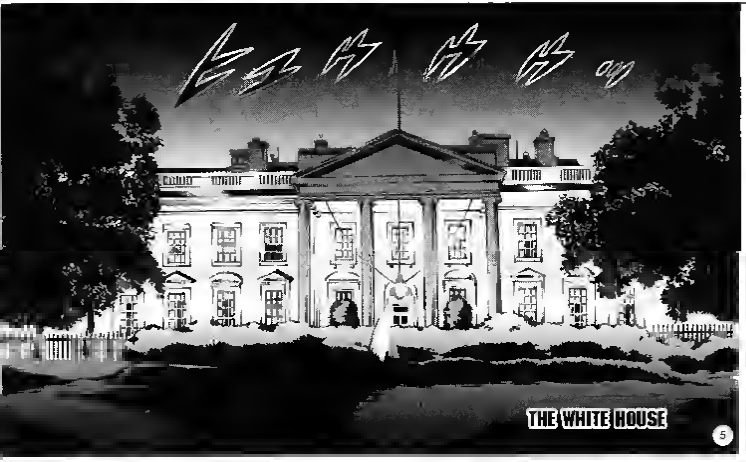

112

114
NUCLEAR WAR-HEADS?

THE CONDITION FOR INDEPENDENCE
FROM AMERICA
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
日本国初代大統領・桜木健一録
TM

CHAPTER 23: INFORMATION IS A POWERFUL WEAPON

CHAPTER 23:
INFORMATION IS
A POWERFUL WEAPON


THE WHITE HOUSE
5

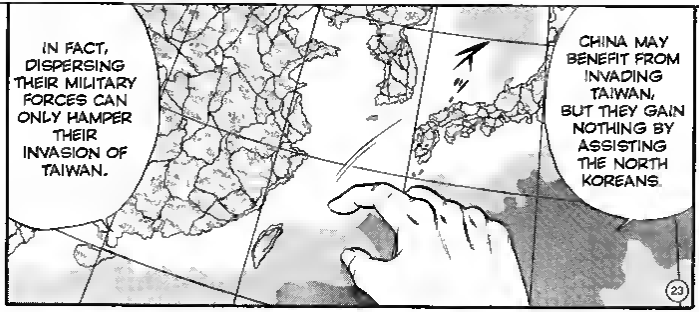
6
THE SITUATION ROOM
GENTLEMEN, BRING ME UP TO DATE.

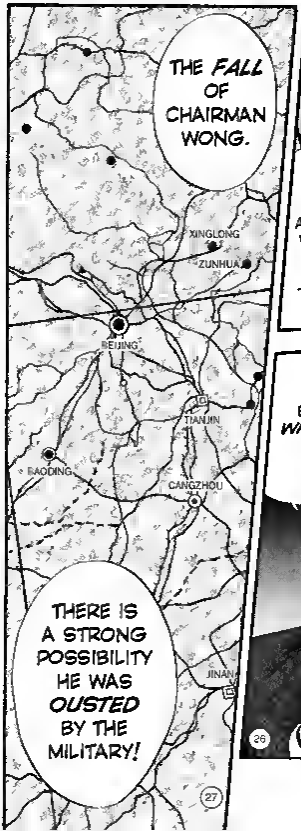
CHINA HAS MANAGED TO KNOCK OUT ALL OF OUR SATELLITES OVER THE ASIAN PACIFIC REGION.
AS A RETALIATORY MEASURE, WE HAVE COMPLETELY DESTROYED CHINA'S SATELLITES.
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE STEVEN HOWELL
7

9
CHINA HAS CROSSED THE LINE THAT THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE.
8
BAM!
10
12
AND WE KNOW WHAT THEY WILL DO NEXT.
EVERY-THING IS UNDER CONTROL.
HOWEVER, EVERYTHING IS PROCEEDING EXACTLY AS WE HAVE FORESEEN
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS PAID A HEAVY PRICE.
PENTAGON LIASON: LOUIS KINGSLEY
11

WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO LAUNCH 12 NEW SATELLITES WITHIN 2 DAYS.
14
CON-VERSELY, WE DO.
CHINA HAS NO IMMEDIATE MEASURES TO COUNTER THE LOSS OF THEIR SATELLITES
13
CHINA WILL NOT KNOW THIS BECAUSE OF THEIR LOSS
THIS LEAVES CHINA COMPLETELY EXPOSED!
15
IN YOUR UPCOMING PRESS CONFERENCE, WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO CONCEAL THIS FACT.
THE PENTAGON ASKS THAT YOU ISSUE AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT EXPRESSING CONCERN.
17
HOWEVER, MR. PRESIDENT, A WORD FIRST.
16

THIS IS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO SOW CONFUSION.
THIS CRISIS CAN BE DECIDED BY HOW INFORMATION IS USED.
18
20
I'M PERFECTLY AWARE OF THAT.
19
21
22
DON'T YOU FIND IT STRANGE ?
HMM ...

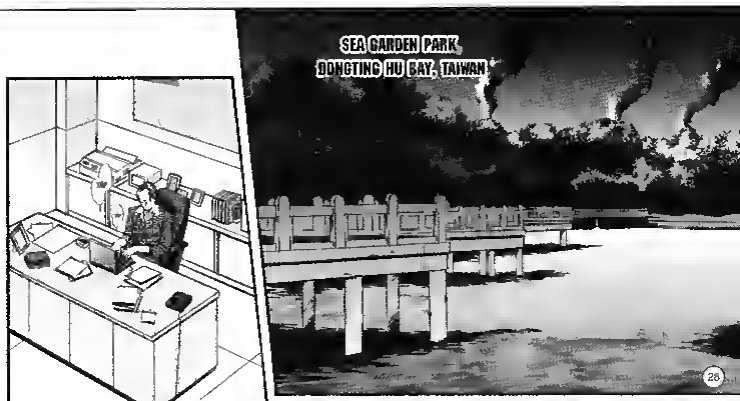

IN FACT, DISPERSING THEIR MILITARY FORCES CAN ONLY HAMPER THEIR INVASION OF TAIWAN.
CHINA MAY BENEFIT FROM INVADING TAIWAN, BUT THEY GAIN NOTHING BY ASSISTING THE NORTH KOREANS.
23

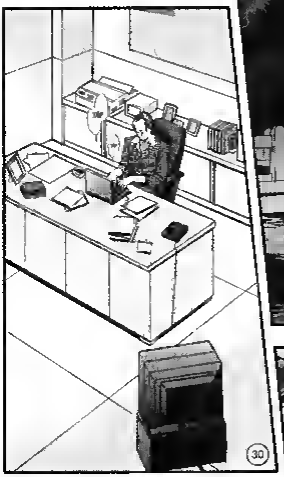

THE *FALL* OF CHAIRMAN WONG.
XINGLONG
ZUNHUA
BEIJING
TIANJIN
BAODING
CANGZHOU
JINAN
THERE IS A STRONG POSSIBILITY HE WAS *OUSTED* BY THE MILITARY!
27

OUR ANALYSTS THINK SO, TOO. IT IS A RATHER UNTHINKABLE STRATEGY
EVEN WITH OUR RESOURCES, A TWO-FRONT WAR WILL BE NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN
24

BUT *WHAT?*
26

THE ONLY IMAGINABLE REASON IS THAT THIS IS A RUSE SOMETHING IS HAPPENING IN CHINA
25


SEA GARDEN PARK
DONGTING HU BAY, TAIWAN
26

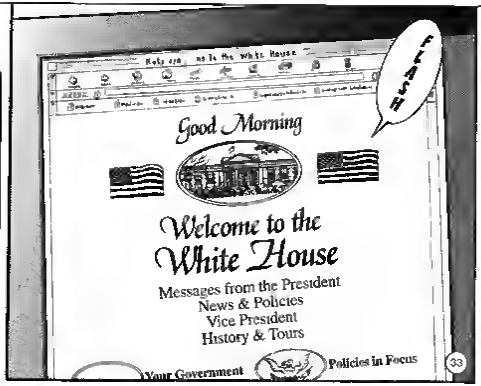

30

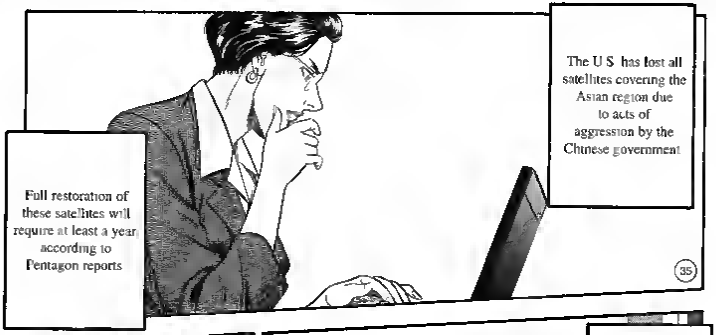
COMMAND CENTER KAO-HSIUN BRANCH
23

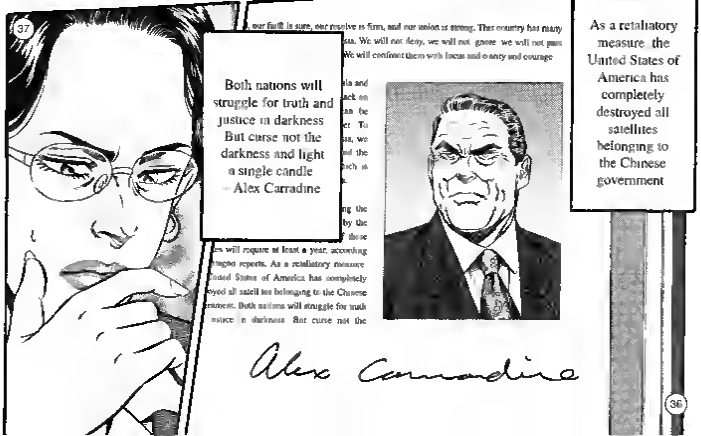
TAP
TAP
TAP
32

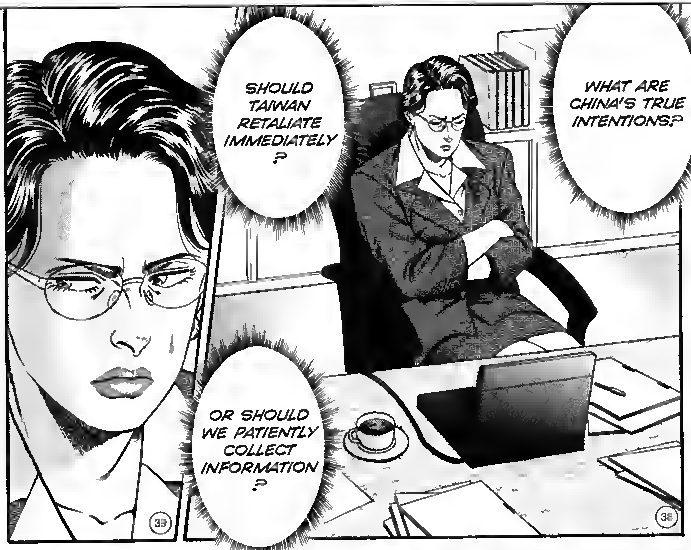
now conectin.....
31

click!!
White House Press Room
Today's Releases, Hot Topics,
and the latest Federal Statistics
34

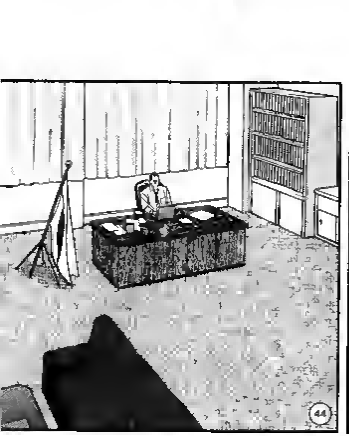

Good Morning
Welcome to the
White House
Messages from the President
News & Policies
Vice President
History & Tours
Your Government
Policies in Focus
33

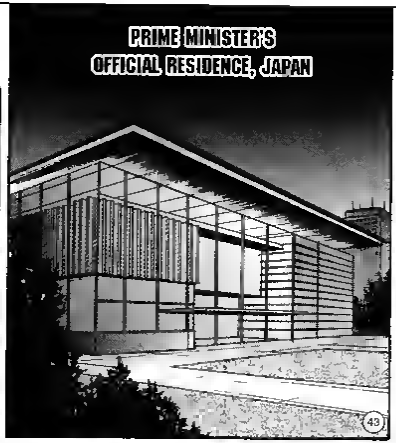

Full restoration of these satellites will require at least a year according to Pentagon reports
The U S has lost all satellites covering the Asian region due to acts of aggression by the Chinese government
35

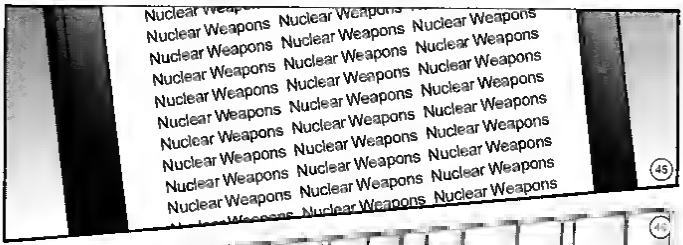

37
Both nations will struggle for truth and justice in darkness But curse not the darkness and light a single candle
– Alex Carradine
As a retaliatory measure the United States of America has completely destroyed all satellites belonging to the Chinese government
Alex Carradine
36


WHAT ARE CHINA'S TRUE INTENTIONS?
SHOULD TAIWAN RETALIATE IMMEDIATELY ?
OR SHOULD WE PATIENTLY COLLECT INFORMATION ?
38
39

41
TAP TAP
TAP
TAP TAP
42
40


44


PRIME MINISTER'S
OFFICIAL RESIDENCE, JAPAN
43


Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons
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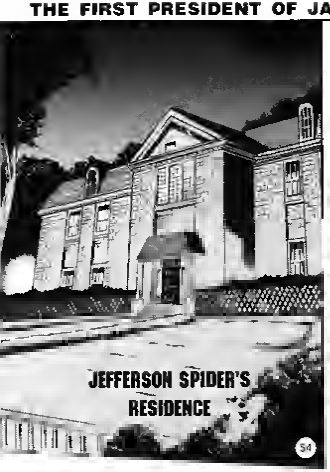
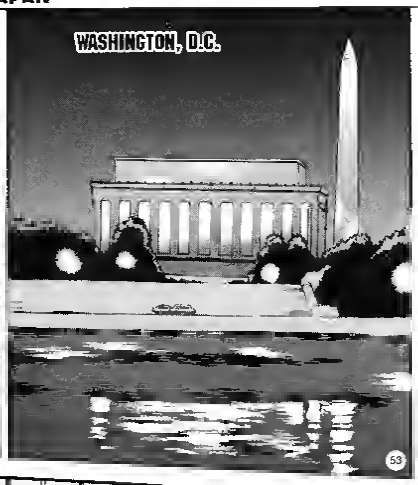
Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons
Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons
Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons
Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons Nuclear Weapons
45

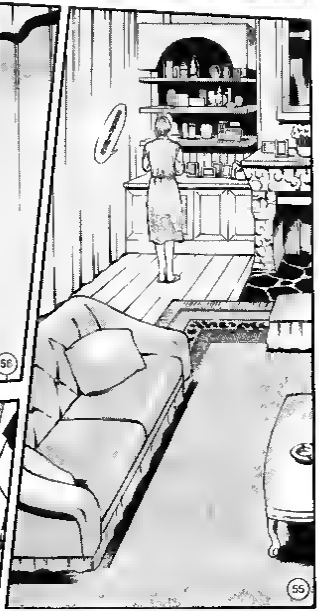
46
47
HMM
...

48
POP
International Risk Management Forum
SONY
STRATEGIC SIMULATION FORUM
49
TAP
TAP TAP
51
HM?
[2081] Thank you for advice>Doctor
POP
[2080] Final opinion
[2079] It's RESISTANCE>AC Mystery
[207 The air force
POP POP POP
Dance RABBIT>Ken SKRG
6] READ ME!
[2075] I believe..
50
THIS IS...!
It's RESISTANCE>AC Myste
The air force
Dance RABBIT>Ken SKRG
2076] READ ME!
52


JEFFERSON SPIDER'S
RESIDENCE
54

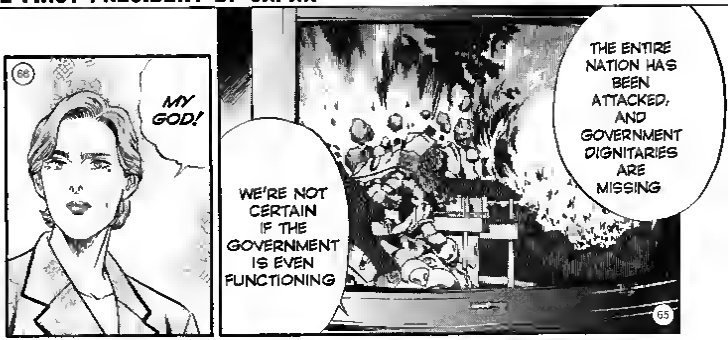

WASHINGTON, D.C.
53

BRRING
BRRING
56

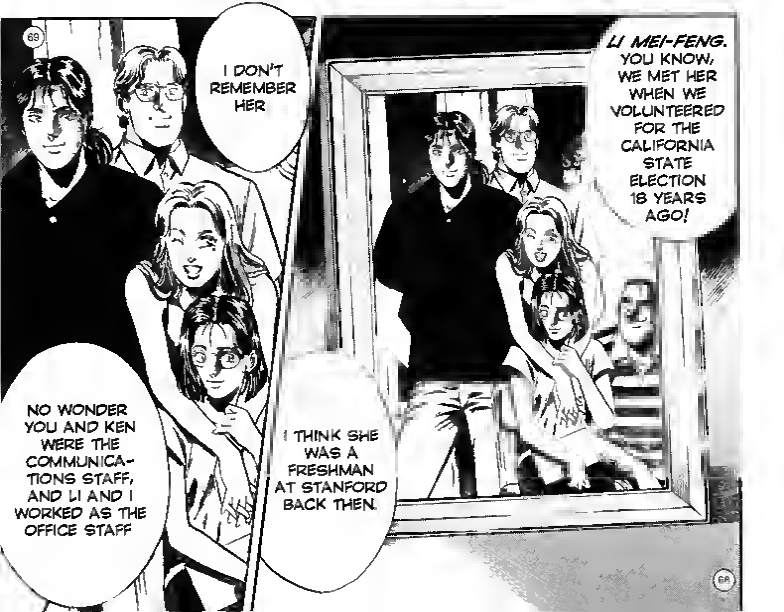

55

57

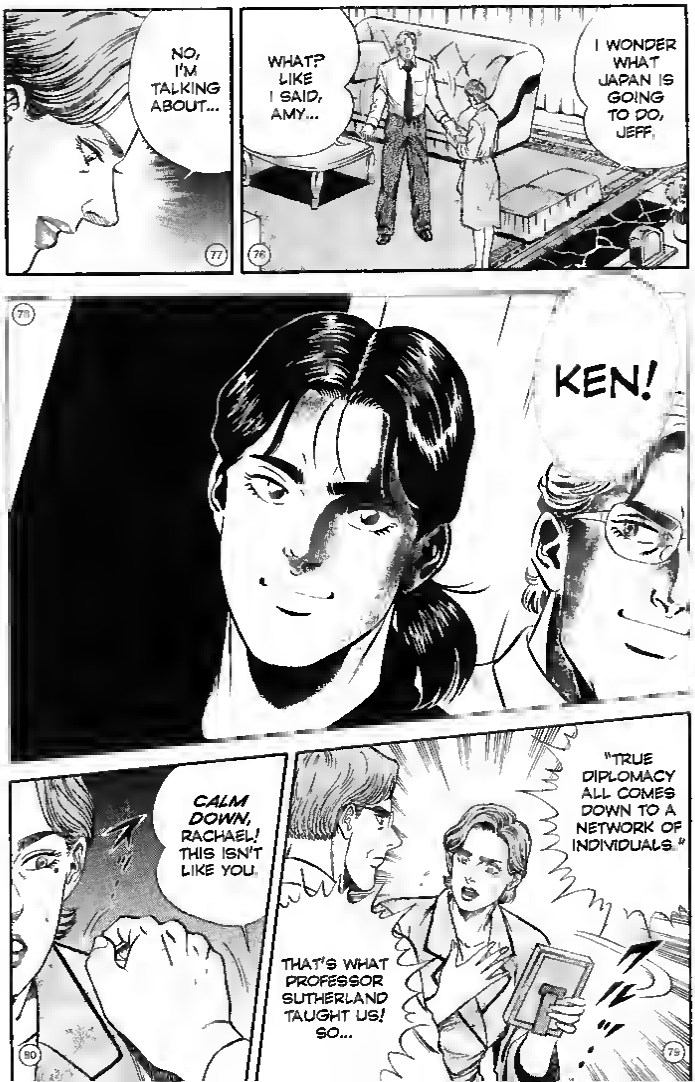
59
CHINA HAS DESTROYED MOST OF OUR SATELLITES, INCLUDING COMMUNI-CATIONS
58
OVERSEA CALLS TO JAPAN WON'T CONNECT
JEFF!
61
60
62
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO JAPAN— AND TO ASIA?
THE PROBLEM IS TAIWAN
THUMP
AMY SHOULD BE SAFE FOR NOW
JAPAN DOESN'T HAVE A SECURITY TREATY WITH THE U.S. ANY-MORE
AS LONG AS THEY ARE QUIET, THERE IS NO REASON FOR CHINA TO ATTACK JAPAN
64
63


66
MY GOD!
WE'RE NOT CERTAIN IF THE GOVERNMENT IS EVEN FUNCTIONING
THE ENTIRE NATION HAS BEEN ATTACKED, AND GOVERNMENT DIGNITARIES ARE MISSING
65

SHE?
I WONDER IF SHE IS ALRIGHT
67


69
I DON'T REMEMBER HER
NO WONDER YOU AND KEN WERE THE COMMUNICATIONS STAFF, AND LI AND I WORKED AS THE OFFICE STAFF
I THINK SHE WAS A FRESHMAN AT STANFORD BACK THEN.
LI MEI-FENG. YOU KNOW, WE MET HER WHEN WE VOLUNTEERED FOR THE CALIFORNIA STATE ELECTION 18 YEARS AGO!
68

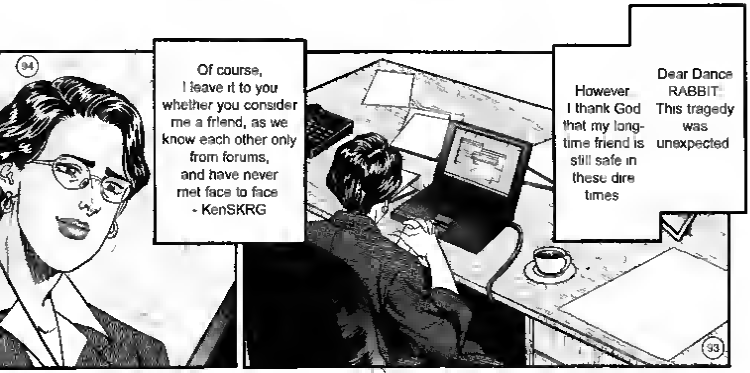
71
SHE'S THE PRESIDENT'S *RIGHT HAND!*
70
IN A LETTER THIS YEAR, SHE MENTIONED THAT SHE HAD BECOME THE CHIEF OF TAIWAN'S SECURITY BUREAU.
WHAT? THAT'S THE TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF MILITARY STRATEGY
THAT'S WHY I'M WORRIED.
72
75
RACHAEL
73
...SHE IS LIKELY GOING THROUGH *HELL*.
I'LL BE BLUNT. YOU KNOW I'M NOT A PESSIMISTIC PERSON BY NATURE.
BUT EVEN IF SHE *WERE* ALIVE...
74


NO, I'M TALKING ABOUT...
77
WHAT? LIKE I SAID, AMY...
I WONDER WHAT JAPAN IS GOING TO DO, JEFF.
76
78
KEN!
CALM DOWN, RACHAEL! THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU.
80
"TRUE DIPLOMACY ALL COMES DOWN TO A NETWORK OF INDIVIDUALS."
THAT'S WHAT PROFESSOR SUTHERLAND TAUGHT US! SO...
75

WHAT ?
NO! AT LEAST, SHE REMEMBERS.
62
BUT THEY PROBABLY DON'T EVEN REMEMBER EACH OTHER THAT THEORY DOESN'T APPLY TO THEM
I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR FRIEND
31
I INVITED HER TO GO WITH ME
DO YOU REMEMBER THAT DANCE PARTY AT STANFORD?
I FORGET EXACTLY WHEN IT WAS
83
SHE WAS A TOUGH WOMAN WHO NEVER SHOWED HER EMOTIONS, BUT THAT TIME SHE WAS BLUSHING ALMOST LIKE A LITTLE GIRL.
SHE DANCED JUST ONCE. AND THAT WAS WITH KEN.
84

KEN MAY NOT REMEMBER HER.
BUT SHE CONTINUES TO SEE KEN, AND I'M SURE HIS JAPAN, IN AN ADORING AND RESPECTFUL WAY!
85
86
I WONDER HOW KEN WILL REACT WHEN HE FINDS OUT ABOUT THIS.

China takes advantage of the Korean crisis. Suppose it were to escalate its attack
Dear KenSKRG my homeland Taiwan suffers an unprovoked attack from China. Our nation suffers in darkness
POST
CLICK!
88
87
89
Finally what are its true intentions? - Denca RABBIT
Will Asia's issues center on China?
How will the US and our neighbors react?
SONY
CLICK
CLICK!
92
TAP TAP
TAP
90
9


94
Of course, I leave it to you whether you consider me a friend, as we know each other only from forums, and have never met face to face
- KenSKRG
Dear Dance RABBIT
This tragedy was unexpected
However I thank God that my long-time friend is still safe in these dire times
93

97
My honest opinion, then
TAP TAP
I reached a certain conclusion during college debates that included former U S administration officials
I trust and respect you
95
Just as Taiwan trusts and respects Japan
- Dance RABBIT
96

Even if the government tried American public opinion will not allow this
- KenSKRG
My conclusion is the U S will not abandon a democratic nation, however small it may be
98

101
TAP
TAP
Then what about your country Japan? - Dance RABBIT
100
99
102
TAP
104
103
Without a U.S.-Japan Security Treaty, I feel that the possibilities of Japan reacting alone without powerful arms are slim.
TAP TAP TAP
Still...
105

I believe that it can help Taiwan in unexpected ways
107
If Japan were to become a truly independent nation
106
Also uncertain about China's true intentions
108
We have no communications Diplomatic rules no longer apply China appears to be in a state of chaos
105
But now, Chairman Wong seems to be displaying his might
Political anarchy in a communist nation usually results in a change in the leadership

111
He is like a "Kagemusha" -the General's double during the era of our civil wars - KenSKRG
110
TRUMP
TRUMP
like a "Kagemusha"
TRUMP
112
A DOUBLE ?
KAGE-MUSHA?
TRUMP
TRUMP
114
113

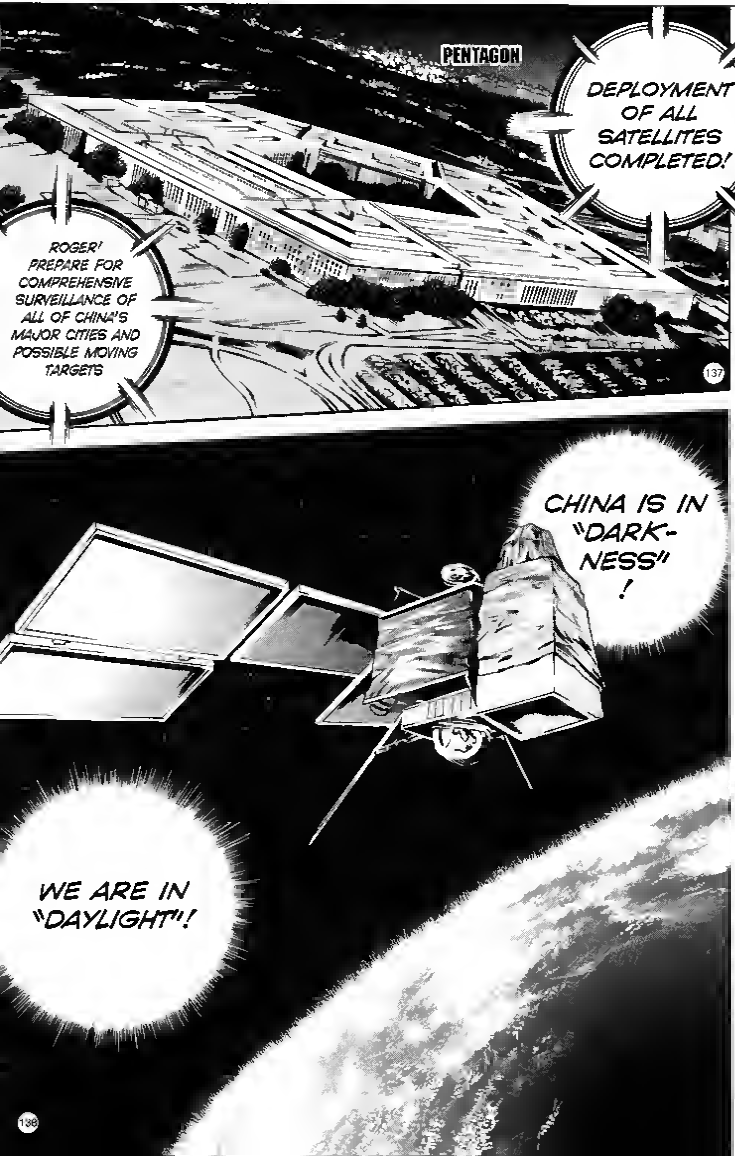
119
Must leave now
If we meet again another dance please
–Dance RABBIT
115
TAP
HUH?
117
POST
CLICK!!
116
SCENE
113
WHAT?
20

CHIEF LI, WE HAVE RECEIVED VISUALS OF CHAIRMAN WONG AT THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS FROM OUR AGENTS IN BEIJING!
121
122
THIS IS IT!
123
SEARCH FOR PICTURES OF CHAIRMAN WONG TAKEN IN THE PAST FROM THE SAME ANGLE.
124
YES, MA'AM!
TAP. TAP.
125
BEEP
126

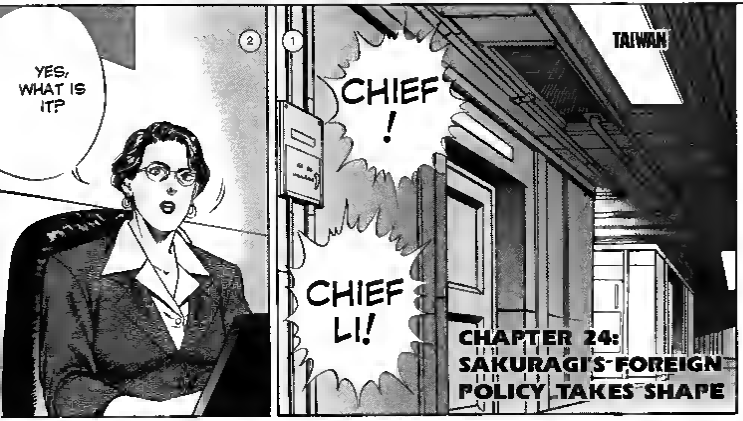
TICK
TICK
TICK
TICK
127
129
126
HOA
HOA
130
OH!
CLICK
I FOUND ONE!
THIS WAS TAKEN IN WUHAN THIS JANUARY!
131
OVERLAP THE TWO PICTURES !
132
CLICK!!
133

CLICK
134
135

136


PENTAGON
DEPLOYMENT OF ALL SATELLITES COMPLETED!
ROGER! PREPARE FOR COMPREHENSIVE SURVEILLANCE OF ALL OF CHINA'S MAJOR CITIES AND POSSIBLE MOVING TARGETS
137
CHINA IS IN "DARK-NESS"!
WE ARE IN "DAYLIGHT"!

THE CONDITION FOR INDEPENDENCE
FROM AMERICA
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
日本国初代大統領・松木健一郎
TM


TAIWAN
CHIEF !
CHIEF LI!
YES, WHAT IS IT?
CHAPTER 24: SAKURAGI'S FOREIGN POLICY TAKES SHAPE

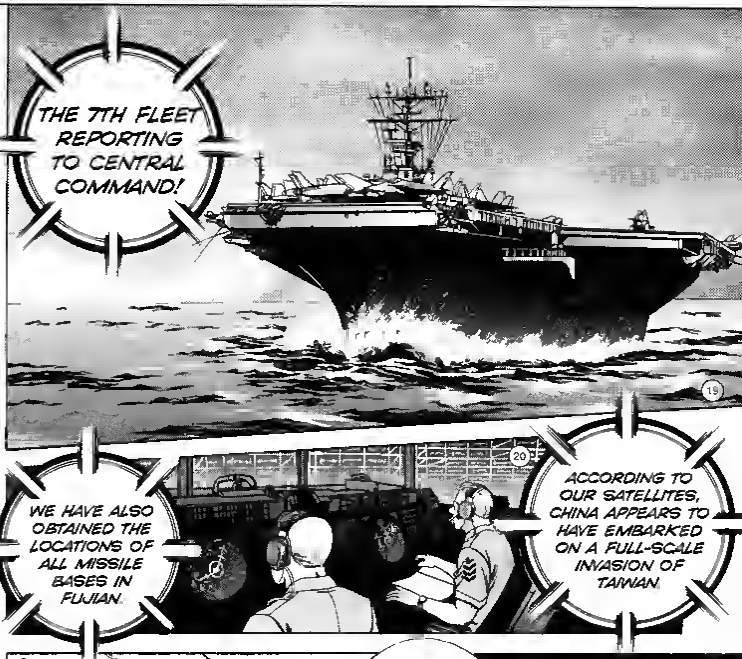
THE PRESIDENT IS ALIVE!
BUT HE'S SERIOUSLY INJURED AND IS BEING TREATED AT A TAIPEI HOSPITAL!
THE PRESIDENT IS ALIVE!?

CHAPTER 24: SAKURAGI'S FOREIGN POLICY TAKES SHAPE

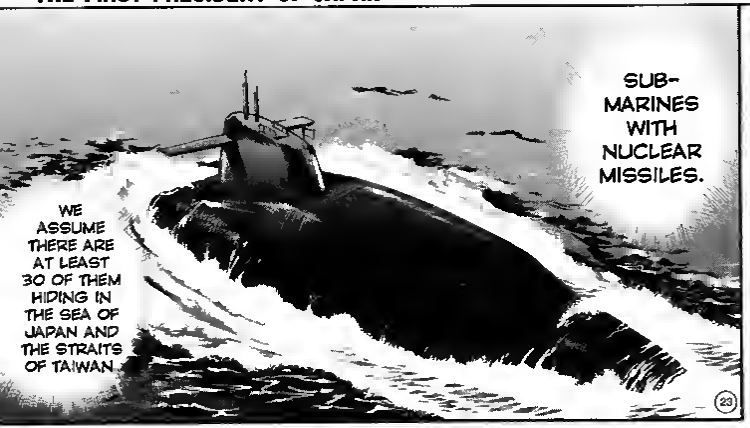
TAIWAN'S A *PATHETIC* LITTLE PROVINCE. NOTHING TO FEAR!
WE'LL CONQUER IT IN *ONE DAY!*

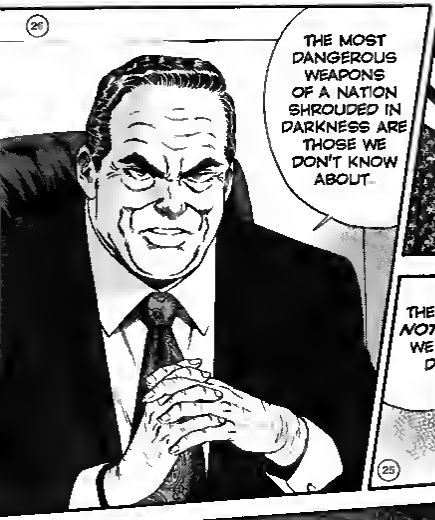
COMMANDER! A CALL FROM GENERAL LIU HUA-YUN, SIR!
8
PATCH HIM IN.
9
THIS DAY HAS COME AT LAST.
LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY, AS THESE ARE THE CHAIRMAN'S VERY WORDS
10
I ORDER THE *COMPLETE DESTRUCTION* OF TAIWAN, WHICH HAS BECOME NOTHING BUT A PAWN FOR CAPITALISM!
11
YES, SIR!
12

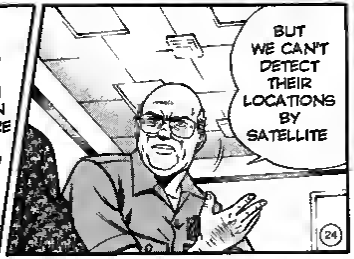
16
THE KOREAN PENINSULA IS *OURS*.
ONLY TAIWAN IS LEFT NOW!
14
CHUCKLE, CHUCKLE
13
CLICK
15
UHH...
ERR ..
18
HA HA HA HA HA!
SHOULD THEY BE STUPID ENOUGH TO COME NEAR US, WE WILL *SINK* THEM IN THE EAST CHINA SEA!
17
WITH NO SATELLITES, WE ARE BOTH *BLIND*! THE HIGH-TECH WEAPONS THEY BRAG OF SO MUCH ARE *USELESS*!
AMERICANS! *LET* THEM COME IF THEY WISH.


THE 7TH FLEET REPORTING TO CENTRAL COMMAND!
19
20
WE HAVE ALSO OBTAINED THE LOCATIONS OF ALL MISSILE BASES IN FUJIAN.
ACCORDING TO OUR SATELLITES, CHINA APPEARS TO HAVE EMBARKED ON A FULL-SCALE INVASION OF TAIWAN.

22
CHINA IS COMPLETELY EXPOSED NOW, BUT THERE STILL REMAINS A SERIOUS PROBLEM.
A SERIOUS PROBLEM ?
THE WHITE HOUSE
21


SUB-MARINES WITH NUCLEAR MISSILES.
WE ASSUME THERE ARE AT LEAST 30 OF THEM HIDING IN THE SEA OF JAPAN AND THE STRAITS OF TAIWAN.
23


26
THE MOST DANGEROUS WEAPONS OF A NATION SHROUDED IN DARKNESS ARE THOSE WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT.


BUT WE CAN'T DETECT THEIR LOCATIONS BY SATELLITE
24

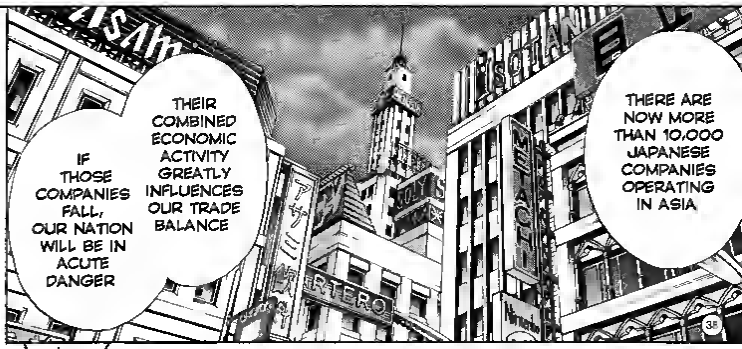
THERE IS *NOTHING* WE CAN DO?
25

IT IS TOO DANGEROUS TO TAKE ACTION WITHOUT INFORMATION.
27

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE
HOW CAN THAT BE?
28
CHINA'S CHAIRMAN WONG IS ALREADY DEAD?
29

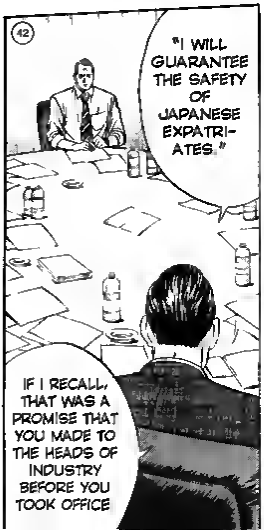
SAKURAGI, IT'S JUST AS YOU FEARED
30
ACCORDING TO OUR NEW INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION, THE PRESENT CHAIRMAN IS A DOUBLE
THE SERIES OF ACTIONS BEGINNING FROM THE PARTICIPATION IN THE KOREAN CRISIS WERE CAUSED BY FANATICS
THEREFORE ..
31

THE PRESENT CHINA IS *NOT* THE ONE THAT WE KNOW!
32
33
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT JAPAN WILL GET DRAWN INTO THIS MESS.
34
CHINA HAS BEGUN INVADING ITS NEIGHBORS TO PREVENT ITS OWN *COLLAPSE*.
HOW CAN YOU BE SO *FLIPPANT*?
IT'S *POSSIBLE*, YOU SAY?
35
37
WE *ALREADY HAVE BEEN*. GENTLEMEN, OUR STRENGTH IS OUR ECONOMY.
FORMER SDLY DIRECTOR, MINISTER OF FINANCE: MURAKATA KEIICHI
38

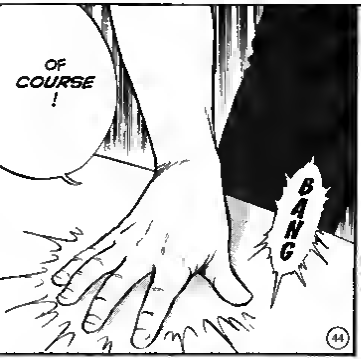

THERE ARE NOW MORE THAN 10,000 JAPANESE COMPANIES OPERATING IN ASIA
THEIR COMBINED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY GREATLY INFLUENCES OUR TRADE BALANCE
IF THOSE COMPANIES FALL, OUR NATION WILL BE IN ACUTE DANGER
38

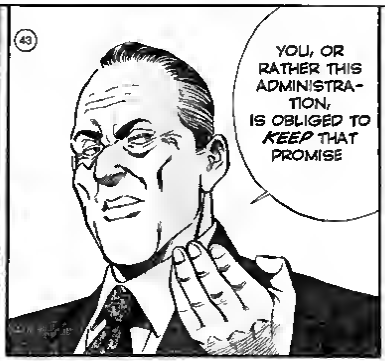
CHINA HAS ALREADY DEVASTATED ENORMOUS MARKETS WHERE WE OPERATE.
IT IS CLEAR THAT THEY HAVE DAMAGED OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS!
39

40
NATIONAL INTERESTS


42
"I WILL GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF JAPANESE EXPATRIATES."
IF I RECALL, THAT WAS A PROMISE THAT YOU MADE TO THE HEADS OF INDUSTRY BEFORE YOU TOOK OFFICE

PRIME MINISTER ..
41


OF COURSE!
GANG
44


43
YOU, OR RATHER THIS ADMINISTRATION, IS OBLIGED TO KEEP THAT PROMISE

JAPAN WILL NOT SURVIVE UNLESS WE CHANGE THE WAY WE THINK.
WITH THE WAY THINGS STAND, OUR NATION HAS NO FUTURE.
45

WE MUST ACT AND MAKE THEM A NATION THAT WE CAN HAVE A SOUND RELATION WITH.
JAPAN WANTS A "DIVIDED CHINA"!
46

THAT IS ONE OPTION.
48
DOES THAT MEAN WE SUPPORT TAIWAN?
WAIT A MINUTE, SIR. WHEN YOU SAY, "WE MUST ACT"...
47
MORE SO IF CHINA IS OUT OF CONTROL!
SHOULD CHINA WIN THIS WAR, JAPAN WILL BE IN A WORSE POSITION THAN IT IS NOW!
I CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT THAT'S FAR TOO DANGEROUS, SIR!
49
50
I AGREE WITH MR. SAKAKI.
DEFENSE AGENCY DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE BUREAU: KOISHIKAWA DAISUKE
TRUE, TAIWAN HAS MORE MODERN WEAPONS THAN CHINA
INITIALLY THEY SHOULD DO WELL
HOWEVER, A WAR OFTEN COMES DOWN TO MATERIAL RESOURCES. CHINA WILL HAVE DISTINCT ADVANTAGES IN A PROLONGED WAR DUE TO ITS OVERWHELMING MANPOWER AND RESOURCES
51

53
IF TAIWAN REPULSES CHINA'S FIRST BLOW AND CAUSES THEM TO WAVER, THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT POSSIBILITY OF A SMALL WAVE BECOMING A TIDAL WAVE
A GREAT NATION WITHOUT A CHARISMATIC LEADER CAN BE QUITE FRAIL
I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT
PUFF
52

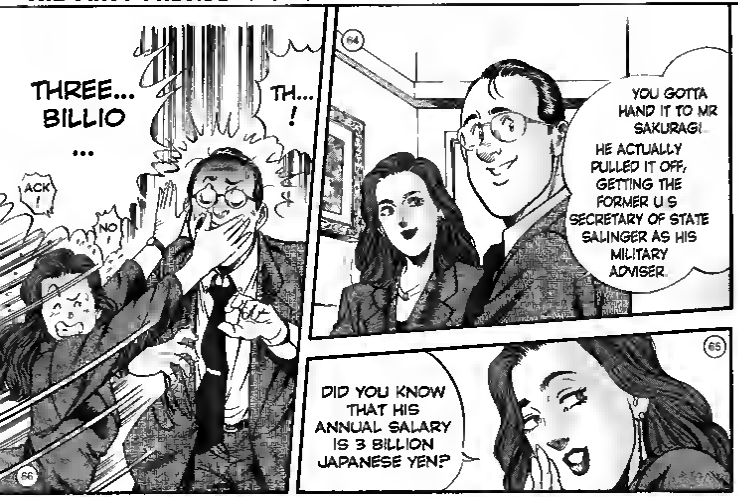
WE *CAN'T* DO THAT! IT'S BOTH DIPLOMATICALLY AND LOGISTICALLY *IMPOSSIBLE*.
54
SO ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT WE DISPATCH OUR SELF-DEFENSE FORCE AS A TOKEN OF OUR SUPPORT FOR TAIWAN?

IT'S *NOT* STRANGE
THEY'RE PROBABLY INCAPABLE OF DOING ANYTHING, SINCE CHINA SHOT DOWN THEIR SATELLITES.
56

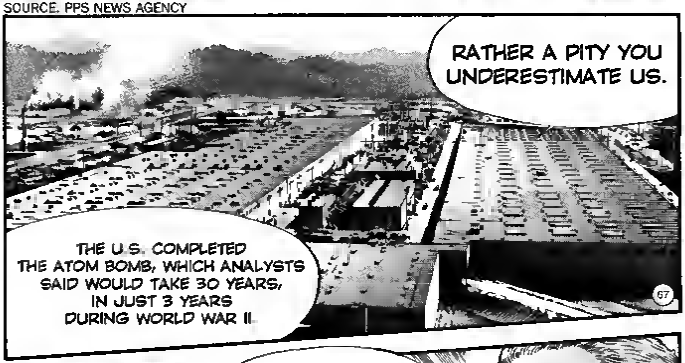
55
WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING?
YEAH! IT'S STRANGE THAT THE U.S. ISN'T DOING ANYTHING. THEY HAVE AN ALLIANCE WITH TAIWAN!

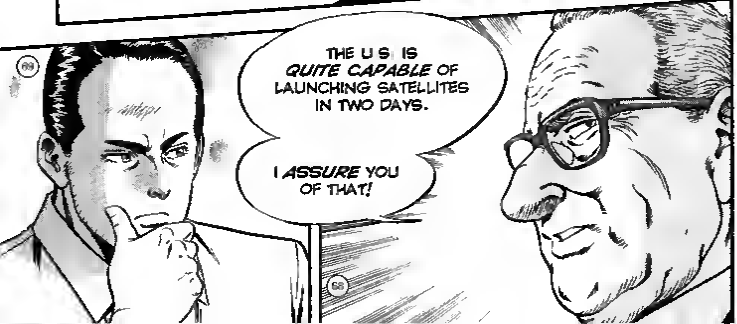
NO, THERE HAS TO BE ANOTHER REASON.
MR. PRIME MINISTER ?
57

59
ARE YOU SAYING THAT THEY'VE ALREADY LAUNCHED NEW SATELLITES?
58
THEY MUST'VE ASSUMED THAT THEIR SATELLITES WOULD BE KNOCKED OUT. SO WE CAN SAFELY ASSUME THAT THEIR STRATEGY TOOK THAT INTO ACCOUNT.
THE U.S. PLANS FOR EVERY CONTINGENCY.
60
EVEN FOR THE U.S., IT CAN'T BE THAT EASY TO...
THAT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE! TECHNOLOGICALLY, IT TAKES AT LEAST THREE MONTHS TO LAUNCH A SATELLITE!
61
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING!
62
HUH?
63
YOU PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING!
SPECIAL MILITARY ADVISER: DARRYL SALINGER


THREE... BILLIO ...
TH... !
ACK !
NO !
64
YOU GOTTA HAND IT TO MR SAKURAGI. HE ACTUALLY PULLED IT OFF, GETTING THE FORMER U S SECRETARY OF STATE SALINGER AS HIS MILITARY ADVISER.
65
DID YOU KNOW THAT HIS ANNUAL SALARY IS 3 BILLION JAPANESE YEN?
66

SOURCE. PPS NEWS AGENCY


RATHER A PITY YOU UNDERESTIMATE US.
THE U.S. COMPLETED THE ATOM BOMB, WHICH ANALYSTS SAID WOULD TAKE 30 YEARS, IN JUST 3 YEARS DURING WORLD WAR II.
67

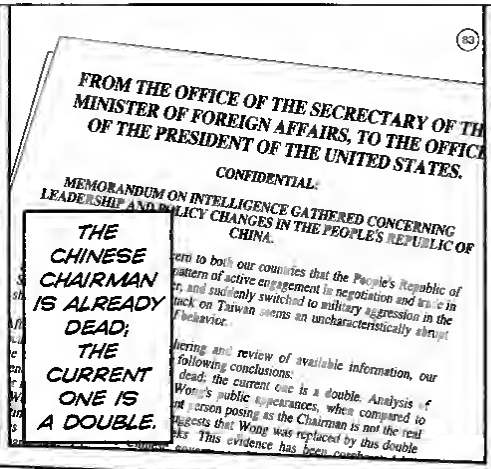


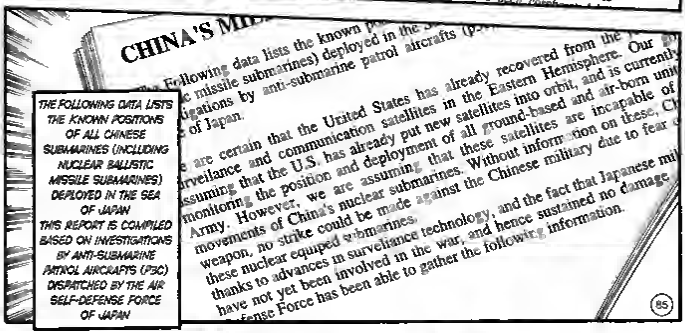
THAT'S IT, ISN'T IT?
THERE IS A *REASON* THAT THEY CANNOT.
72
THAT WOULD MEAN THAT THE U.S. HAS ITS EYES BACK
THEN WHY DON'T THEY TAKE ACTION?
70
71
VERY PERCEPTIVE, MR. PRIME MINISTER.
73
74

MR. PRIME MINISTER?
SAKURAGI ?
75
78
GENTLEMEN, WE NOW KNOW WHAT JAPAN MUST DO!

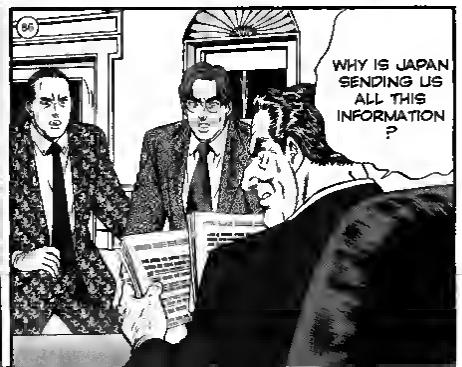
THE WHITE HOUSE
MR PRESIDENT! A CLASSIFIED DOCUMENT FROM JAPAN, SIR!
WHAT COULD THEY WANT NOW?
76
77
FOR CHRIST SAKE, THE U.S.-JAPAN SECURITY TREATY IS *HISTORY* HOW LONG ARE THEY GOING TO *GROVEL* FOR OUR PROTECTION?
79
UH... THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT, SIR.
HMM?
81
GOOD LORD!
82

84
WHAT !?

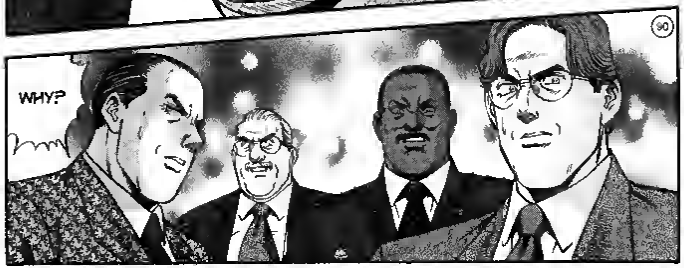

83
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SECRECTARY OF TH
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TO THE OFFICE
OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
CONFIDENTIAL:
MEMORANDUM ON INTELLIGENCE GATHERED CONCERNING
LEADERSHIP AND POLICY CHANGES IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA.
THE CHINESE CHAIRMAN IS ALREADY DEAD; THE CURRENT ONE IS A DOUBLE.


CHINA'S MI
THE FOLLOWING DATA LISTS THE KNOWN POSITIONS OF ALL CHINESE SUBMARINES (INCLUDING NUCLEAR BALLISTIC MISSILE SUBMARINES) DEPLOYED IN THE SEA OF JAPAN
THIS REPORT IS COMPILED BASED ON INVESTIGATIONS BY ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL AIRCRAFTS (P3C) DISPATCHED BY THE AIR SELF-DEFENSE FORCE OF JAPAN
85

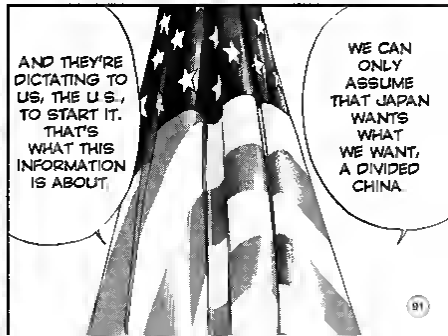
87
MR. PRESIDENT, ARE YOU SAYING THAT...


86
WHY IS JAPAN SENDING US ALL THIS INFORMATION ?

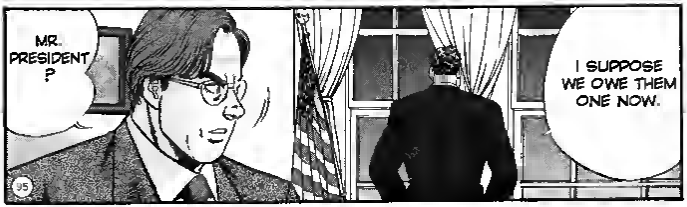
89
SAKURAGI INTENDS TO USE US!
JAPAN IS TRYING TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE HERE BY OFFERING US INFORMATION UNCONDITIONALLY.
88


90
WHY?

THAT IMPUDENT LITTLE...
92


AND THEY'RE DICTATING TO US, THE U.S., TO START IT. THAT'S WHAT THIS INFORMATION IS ABOUT.
WE CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT JAPAN WANTS WHAT WE WANT, A DIVIDED CHINA.
91

34
YES, SIR!
RELAY THIS INFORMATION TO TAIWAN IMMEDIATELY!
POSITION THE 7TH FLEET FOR A POSSIBLE COUNTER-STRIKE!
93

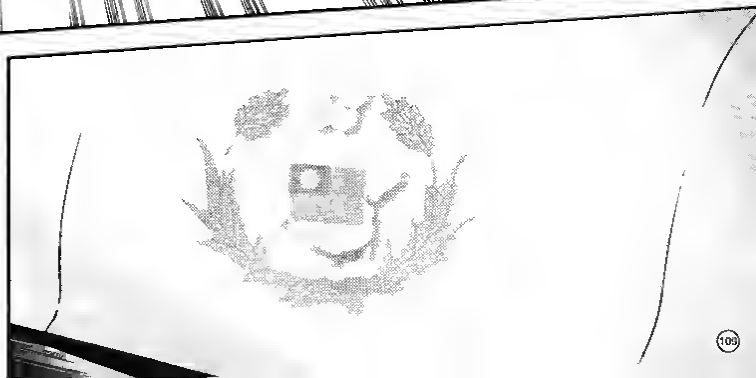

MR. PRESIDENT ?
I SUPPOSE WE OWE THEM ONE NOW.
95

96
JAPAN HAS STARTED TO PROTECT ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS, NOT BY SHOWING MONEY BUT INTELLIGENCE
WE CAN NO LONGER TAKE THEM SO LIGHTLY.

99
DOCTOR, IS IT SAFE TO WAKE HIM UP RIGHT NOW?
HE IS STABLE NOW, AND RESTING.
98
HOW IS THE PRESIDENT ?
97
BUT ...
WELL... YES...
100
WHAT?
謝絕會面
NO VISITORS
101
THUD
THEN WAKE HIM UP!
THE ORDER FOR A FULL-SCALE ATTACK ON MAINLAND CHINA!
I WISH TO ASK HIM JUST ONE THING!
102

WE'RE ALMOST READY TO TAKE UP STRIKE FORMATION!
101
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
104
WHAT'S THIS?
105
HM?
C-COM-MANDER! LOOK AT THIS, SIR!
106
WHAT ?
107

THAT'S *IMPOSSIBLE!*
THE TAIWANESE AIR FORCE?



ALL 30 OF OUR ADVANCE PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN!
112
111
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WE WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE AIR SUPERIORITY!
WHAT?
113
114
115
NO, NO, NO, NO,
NOOOOO!

116
117

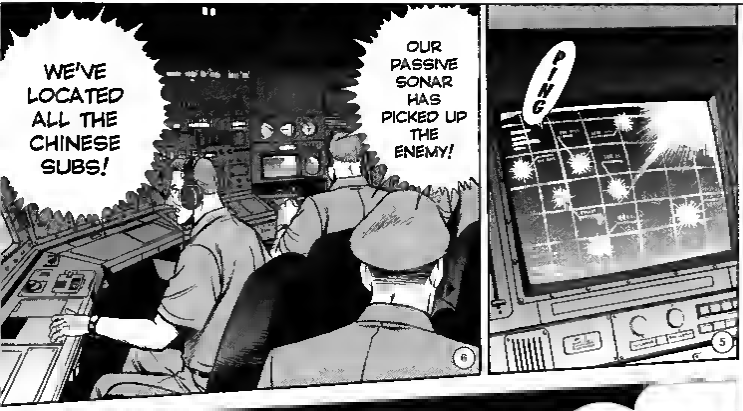
OUR FIRST ASSAULT WAVE WAS REPULSED
THE LANDING IN TAIWAN HAS ENDED IN FAILURE
113
BEIJING, CHINA
A REPORT, SIR!
118
WHAT?
120
BANG!
122
FU- FURTHERMORE, ALL OF THE MISSILE BASES AND MILITARY FACILITIES IN FUJIAN HAVE BEEN SYSTEM-ATICALLY WIPED OUT!
121

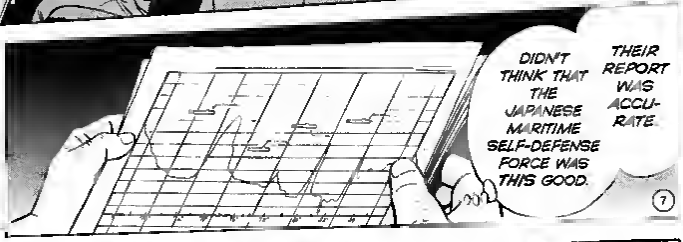
123
124
WHY
?

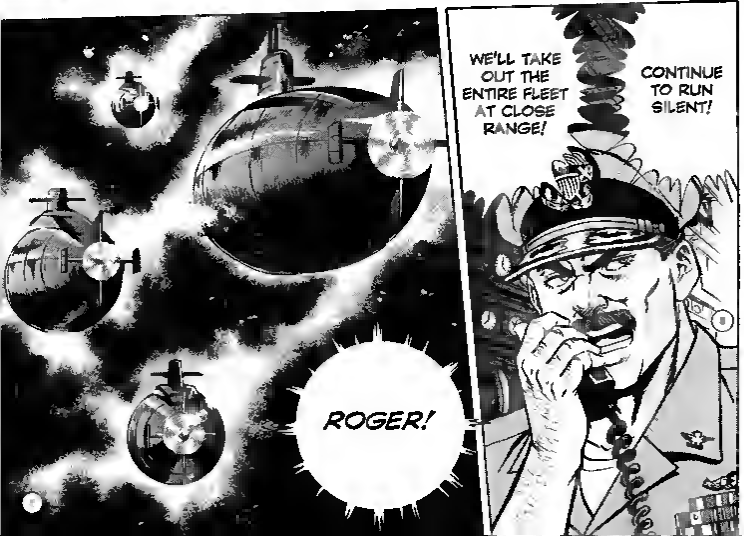
THE CONDITION FOR INDEPENDENCE FROM AMERICA
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
日本国初代大統領・桜木徹一郎
™

CHAPTER 25: A BRUTAL CHANGE OF REGIME

CHAPTER 25:
A BRUTAL CHANGE OF REGIME


WE'VE LOCATED ALL THE CHINESE SUBS!
OUR PASSIVE SONAR HAS PICKED UP THE ENEMY!
PING
6
5


DIDN'T THINK THAT THE JAPANESE MARITIME SELF-DEFENSE FORCE WAS THIS GOOD.
THEIR REPORT WAS ACCU-RATE.
7

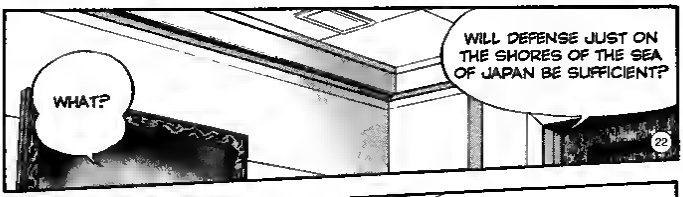

ROGER!
WE'LL TAKE OUT THE ENTIRE FLEET AT CLOSE RANGE!
CONTINUE TO RUN SILENT!
8

CHINESE NAVY,
NAVAL STRATEGIC SUBMARINE TROOP.
IN WAR, THERE'S NOTHING MORE LETHAL THAN ACCURATE INFORMATION.
10
BOOM!
THE MORE ACCURATE THE INFORMATION, THE FASTER THE MISSION IS ACCOMPLISHED.
BEEP
BEEP
11
WHAT ?
13
12

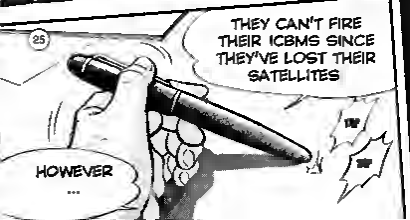
IT WAS ALL OVER IN A MATTER OF MINUTES
IN THOSE FEW MINUTES, CHINA'S FATE WAS SEALED.
14
THE CHINESE SUBMARINES NEVER STOOD A CHANCE. THEY SANK WITHOUT THEIR CREWS EVER KNOWING WHAT HIT THEM.
WITH ONLY AIR SURVEILLANCE, IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO TRACK SUBMARINES THAT ARE RUNNING DEEP.
AND CONFIRM THAT THEY VE BEEN SUNK
15

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE
国家安全保障会議
NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE
GENTLEMEN! WE HAVE SEVERAL CRITICAL MATTERS TO DEAL WITH.
16
17
NOW THAT WE HAVE PROVIDED INFORMATION TO THE U S ...
...WE CAN ASSUME THAT THE SEA OF JAPAN WILL BECOME A HOT BED OF ACTIVITY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.
18
WE NEED TO TAKE SAFETY MEASURES WE MUST, OF COURSE, EVACUATE THE RESIDENTS ALONG THE COAST, AND THIS HAS TO BE DONE IN UTMOST SECRECY.
WE ALSO NEED TO STATION GROUND, MARITIME AND AIR SELF-DEFENSE FORCES IN THIS REGION.
19

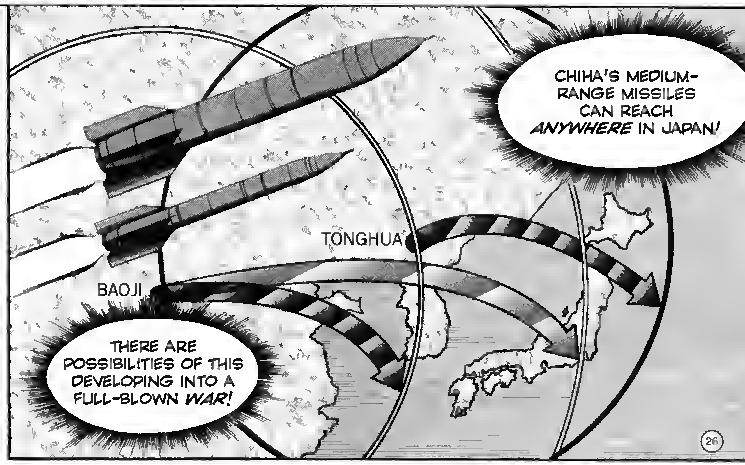
IN THE MEANTIME, WE MUST DEVELOP A CLEAR POLICY AS TO HOW WE ARE GOING TO DEAL WITH CHINA AS IT BREAKS UP AND DEMOCRATIZES
21
WE'LL WAIT FOR THE U.S. TO TAKE ACTION
20

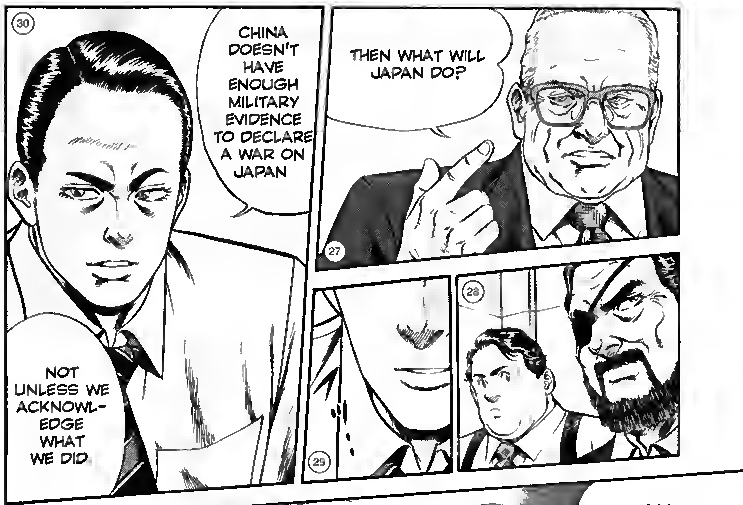

WHAT?
WILL DEFENSE JUST ON THE SHORES OF THE SEA OF JAPAN BE SUFFICIENT?
22

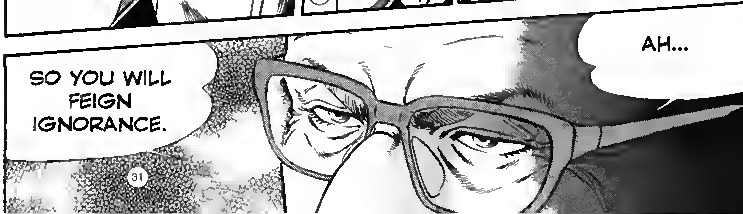
24


25
THEY CAN'T FIRE THEIR ICBMS SINCE THEY'VE LOST THEIR SATELLITES
HOWEVER ...

23
IF CHINA FINDS OUT THAT JAPAN PROVIDED THE U.S. INFORMATION, NOT ONLY THE SEA OF JAPAN...
...BUT THE ENTIRE MAINLAND OF JAPAN WILL BECOME A WAR ZONE!


CHINA'S MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILES CAN REACH *ANYWHERE* IN JAPAN!
TONGHUA
BAOJI
THERE ARE POSSIBILITIES OF THIS DEVELOPING INTO A FULL-BLOWN *WAR*!
26

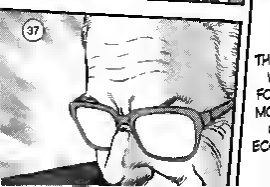

30
CHINA DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH MILITARY EVIDENCE TO DECLARE A WAR ON JAPAN
NOT UNLESS WE ACKNOWL-EDGE WHAT WE DID
THEN WHAT WILL JAPAN DO?
27
28
29

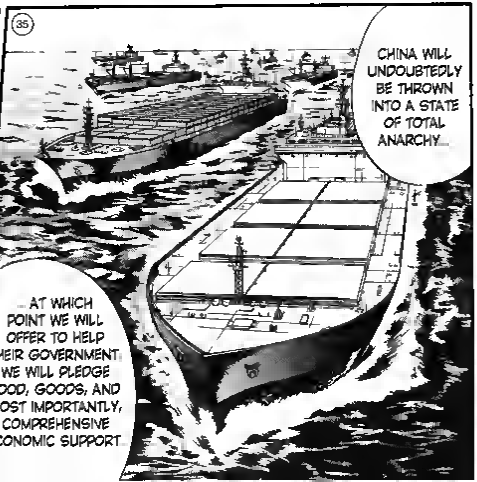

AH...
SO YOU WILL FEIGN IGNORANCE.
31

WE NOW HAVE A SYSTEM OF BARGAINING, WHICH WE CALL DIPLOMACY.
33
THE ERA WHEN NATIONS PROFIT FROM WAR IS OVER.
32

HOWEVER, OUR ACTIONS ARE BASED ON A HIGHER POLITICAL IDEAL. WE BELIEVE THAT PAINFUL SACRIFICES MUST BE MADE FOR LIBERTY AND DEMOCRACY. THIS IS ONE OF THEM.
UNFORTUNATELY, COUNTLESS SUB CREWS WILL DIE.
WE TOLD THE U.S. WHERE THE CHINESE SUBS WERE NOT BECAUSE WE WANT TO HURT CHINA. RATHER, WE ARE ACTING IN CHINA'S BEST INTEREST.
34

THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS!
36


37


35
CHINA WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE THROWN INTO A STATE OF TOTAL ANARCHY...
...AT WHICH POINT WE WILL OFFER TO HELP THEIR GOVERNMENT. WE WILL PLEDGE FOOD, GOODS, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC SUPPORT.

GENTLEMEN, OUR ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO FORGE A NEW ALLIANCE TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA!
38
WHAT?
39
40
HA HA HA HA HA!
43
CHUCKLE
42
41

IT SEEMS THAT I NO LONGER HAVE ANYTHING TO TEACH HERE.
45
44
THE VERY MAN WHO GAVE OUT INFORMATION TO SINK CHINA'S SUBMARINES SUGGESTS AN ALLIANCE TREATY?
WHAT A FARCE!
MR. SALINGER!
46
48
47
JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY IS TAKING AN INTERESTING NEW TURN
MR. PRIME MINISTER, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT YOU REALLY UNDERSTAND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

KAO-HSIUNG CENTRAL HOSPITAL, TAIWAN
49
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
50
51
HE IS IN CRITICAL CONDITION.
HE WAS RECOVERING, BUT HIS ABDOMINAL WOUNDS WERE *WORSE* THAN WE THOUGHT.
52
53
HIS CHANCES OF RECOVERY ?
54
55

49
50
MR PRESIDENT
51
!!
C-CLOSER...
52
60
61
A NATION... CANNOT... EXIST... ALONE...
ESTABLISH... A STRUCTURE ...OF MUTUAL... SECURITY...
FIRST SPEAK... TO... JAPAN...

I PROMISE YOU I'LL ESTABLISH A MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY FOR TAIWAN !
DON'T WORRY!
MR. PRESIDENT !
63
65
66
BEEEE
MR. PRESIDENT ! NOOO!
67
69
70

71
72
73
74
75
CONTACT PRIME MINISTER SAKURAGI IMMEDIATELY!

"AS A FRIENDLY ASIAN NATION, WE ARE MORE THAN WILLING TO HELP YOUR COUNTRY."
"THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS READY TO PROVIDE SUPPLIES, FOOD, MEDICAL, HUMAN RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT IN AN EFFORT TO ASSIST CHINA IN ITS HOUR OF NEED."
77

CHINA
WE'VE RECEIVED AN OFFICIAL JAPANESE GOVERNMENT COMMUNIQUÉ
76

AHH!
"WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL CONSIDER THE CONCLUSION OF A MILITARY ALLIANCE AT THIS TIME."
78

80
HUMPH

DO THEY INTEND TO FLASH THE CORRUPT MONEY OF IMPERIALISM AND *BRIBE* US?
HUMPH! A MONEY-WORSHIPPING COUNTRY OF NO POWER IS BEING SELF-RIGHTEOUS
79

83
THE MILITARY BASES IN SICHUAN WERE COMPLETELY DESTROYED BY TAIWAN'S SURPRISE ATTACK. OUR MILITARY SATELLITES WERE DESTROYED AS WELL
MOREOVER, NEARLY HALF OF OUR FIGHTER PLANES HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN
CHINESE VICE-CHAIRMAN: LIN ZHOUXING
CLICK
CLICK
SO BE IT... WE WILL SIMPLY USE THEM.
81
DO WE HAVE THE RESOURCES TO BE SO COMPLACENT?
82
WE MUST SIT DOWN AND TALK WITH TAIWAN! IT IS TIME TO NEGOTIATE!
WE MUST BRING AN END TO THIS UNPRODUCTIVE MILITARY ACTIVITY!
84
87
UH
BAM!
86
85

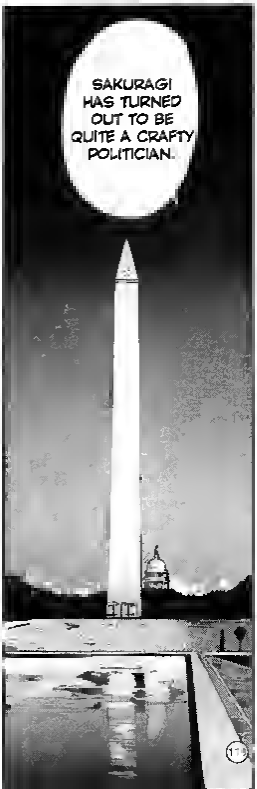
OUR NATION HAS NO FUTURE UNLESS OUR PEOPLE UNITE AS ONE!
HOW CAN A GREAT NATION LIKE OURS SHOW WEAKNESS AFTER JUST ONE SURPRISE ATTACK BY TAIWAN?
CHAIRMAN WONG ON HIS SICKBED FEELS THE SAME WAY AS ME!
88
89
HE IS ALREADY DEAD!
HA! CHAIRMAN WONG FEELS THE SAME?
90
WE MUST USE OUR ULTIMATE WEAPONS!
WE MUST QUICKLY RESOLVE THIS IMPASSE.
DO THEY KNOW?
91
92
93

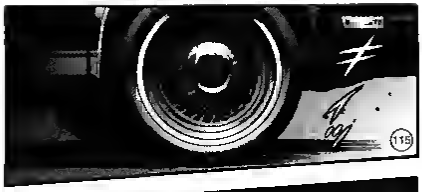
WE'LL COMMAND OUR NUCLEAR SUBMARINES TO ATTACK!
WE STILL HAVE OUR SUB-MARINES!
WHAT ?
94
95
96
IF WE RESOLVE THIS HERE, THAT PATHETIC LITTLE COUNTRY WILL SURRENDER WITHIN THE NEXT FEW HOURS.
WE POSITIONED ALL OF OUR SUBMARINES IN THE STRAIT OF TAIWAN TO DEAL WITH ANY CONTINGENCY.
A LION GOES AFTER A HARE WITH ITS FULL FORCE!
98
UH.. SIR...
100
99
I ASSUME THOSE WHO PROTEST HAVE AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN?
97

101
WE...WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM OUR SUBMARINES SINCE 7:30 THIS MORNING
CHINESE NAVY COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: CHEN LIK-WAN
102
WHAT ...?
ゴゴゴゴ
103
IT'S EITHER A COMMU-NICATION HITCH .. OR...
WE'VE ...WE'VE LOST THEM
104
WHAT DID YOU SAY!?
105
ヒュー

NOT EVEN THE FEW THAT WERE POSITIONED IN ADJOINING SEAS.
THERE IS NOTHING FURTHER WE CAN DO.
107
WE... WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO REACH ALL 22 OF OUR SUBMARINES
106
109
YES.. YES, SIR!
GET OUT OF MY SIGHT.
BITE
BITE
108
NO, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO TRACK EVERY ONE OF THOSE SUBMARINES WITHOUT ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL PLANES OR THE LATEST DEEP-SEA SURVEYORS SO, WHO DID IT?
ALL SUBMARINE ARE LOST?
COULD ALL OF THEM HAVE BEEN ATTACKED ?
110
THEN THERE IS ONLY ONE ANSWER!
BITE
113
112
JAPAN? NO, THEY'VE BEEN AT PEACE FOR SO LONG, THEY WOULDN'T HAVE THE BALLS
111

WASHINGTON D.C.
114


SAKURAGI HAS TURNED OUT TO BE QUITE A CRAFTY POLITICIAN.
115


115

116

116
COME!

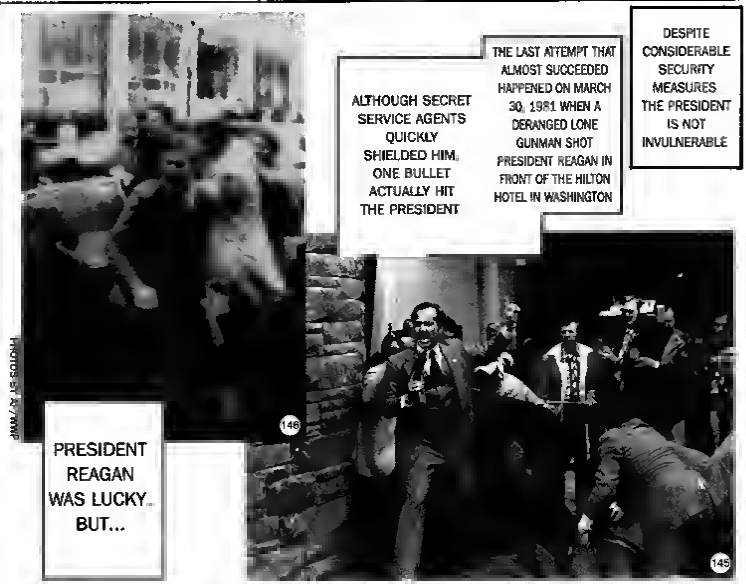
YES, SIR!
SPIDER!
117

121
BY USING THE UNITED STATES, NO LESS.
IN THE BROAD SENSE, HE MAY HAVE BEEN THE ONE WHO SET THINGS IN MOTION IN CHINA.
122
120
123
BUT WE SHOULD PROBABLY AVOID BECOMING ENEMIES WITH THEM
WE DON'T NEED TO FEAR JAPAN. NOT *YET*.
126
125
YES, SIR!
WE SHALL INVITE HIM TO THE UNITED STATES.
AS THEY WISH!
SAKURAGI HAS SUGGESTED A NEW STYLE OF DIPLOMACY.
124

SIGH
128
YES, SIR.
130
SPIDER. WHY DON'T YOU HAVE A SEAT?
129
127
FOR SOME REASON, I CAN RELAX WHEN I COME HERE
I CAN FORGET EVERYTHING, AND BECOME PLAIN OLD ALEX CARRADINE
131
!
REMEMBER-ING MY OLDER BROTHER
133
I'VE BEEN HERE HUNDREDS OF TIMES SINCE I WAS A CHILD
132

WHEN I THINK OF MY BROTHER, I GET SICK OF THESE WARS
I ALSO THINK ABOUT HOW I WANT TO QUIT BEING THE PRESIDENT AND GO BACK TO LEADING A NORMAL LIFE
THIS MONTH HAS BEEN EXTREMELY HECTIC. TWO SIMULTANEOUS DISPUTES IN ASIA
AND THE TREMENDOUS AMERICAN CASUALTIES IN KOREA THE PRESIDENT MUST BE TIRED
134
135
ZING
136
137
138
139

142
141
MR. PRESIDENT!
SHIT!
140
143
144


PHOTOS OF JOHN HINCKLEY
PRESIDENT REAGAN WAS LUCKY... BUT...
146
ALTHOUGH SECRET SERVICE AGENTS QUICKLY SHIELDED HIM, ONE BULLET ACTUALLY HIT THE PRESIDENT
THE LAST ATTEMPT THAT ALMOST SUCCEEDED HAPPENED ON MARCH 30, 1981 WHEN A DERANGED LONE GUNMAN SHOT PRESIDENT REAGAN IN FRONT OF THE HILTON HOTEL IN WASHINGTON
DESPITE CONSIDERABLE SECURITY MEASURES THE PRESIDENT IS NOT INVULNERABLE
145

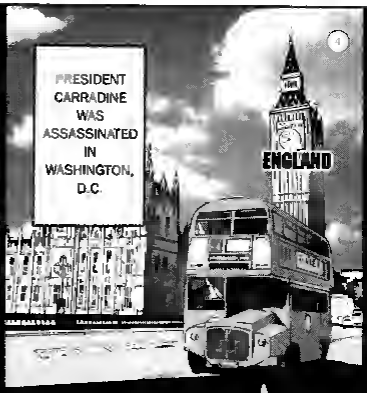
MR. PRESIDENT!
149
147
UGH...
148

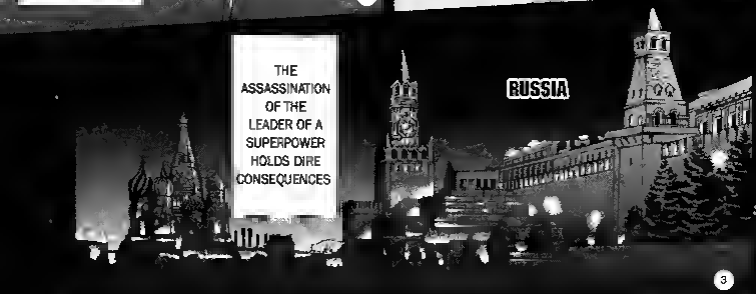
I AM GLAD .. IT HAPPENED... HERE ..
HERE... AT THIS PLACE...
151
150
!... I AM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA...
THIS... COMES... WITH... THE JOB...
MY BROTHER... AWAITS ME...
152

155
154
MR. PRESIDENT!
153

No!!!
156
IN THE NAME OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CLOSE ALL BORDERS AND EXITS FROM THE U.S.!
HUNT DOWN THE BASTARDS WHO DID THIS.
158
157
159

THE CONDITION FOR INDEPENDENCE
FROM AMERICA
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
日本国初代大統領・松木隆一郎
TM





CHAPTER 26: THE INDEPENDENCE OF JAPAN

CHAPTER 26:
THE INDEPENDENCE OF JAPAN

7
ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION WE'VE OBTAINED, THE PRESIDENT WAS APPARENTLY KILLED INSTANTLY.
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICIAL HESIDENCE
9
SO THE QUESTION IS, "WHAT SHOULD JAPAN BE DOING?"
WE CAN NOW EXPECT CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL TURMOIL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
8
CLICK
ALL OF THE MAJOR WORLD LEADERS WILL BE ATTENDING THE PRESIDENT'S STATE FUNERAL, AND THE ENTIRE U S WILL BE IN MOURNING
FURTHER-MORE ...
10
9

DIPLOMATIC MANEUVERING ON A CONDOLENCE VISIT?

12

DESPITE OUR RECENT DIFFERENCES, JAPAN SHOULD IMMEDIATELY EXPRESS INTENTIONS TO ATTEND THE STATE FUNERAL.

THE TALKS HELD THERE WILL ESSENTIALLY DETERMINE THE DIRECTION OF THE WORLD.

11

"...Or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the Vice President."

The United States Constitution, Article II, Section 1: "In case of the removal of the President from office, or of his death, resignation,..."

15

13

DON'T YOU THINK AMERICA'S REACTION TO THIS INCIDENT IS A LITTLE *SLOW*?

TRUE IT'S BEEN ALMOST A DAY, AND THEY HAVEN'T ANNOUNCED THE NEW PRESIDENT.

14

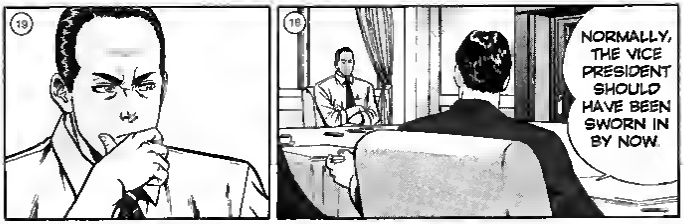
WHEN PRESIDENT KENNEDY WAS ASSASSINATED IN DALLAS IN 1963,

LYNDON B JOHNSON, WHO WAS THE VICE PRESIDENT AT THE TIME, WAS SWORN IN ON A FLYING AIRPLANE

PHOTO BY AP/WWP

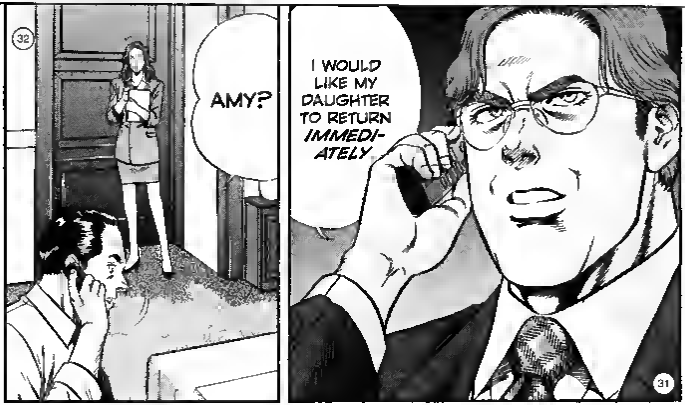
16

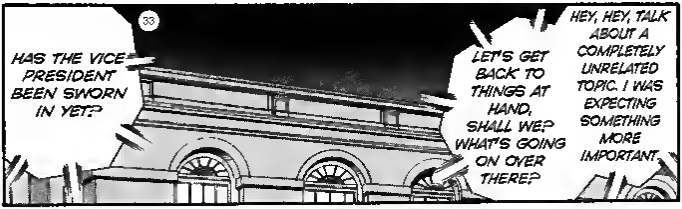
THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS PROFOUND AUTHORITY.
HE IS NOT ONLY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE MILITARY BUT HE ALSO HAS THE RIGHT TO PRESS THE NUCLEAR BUTTON.
THAT'S WHY THEY ALWAYS TRY TO KEEP THE BLANK PERIOD WHEN THERE IS NO PRESIDENT AS SHORT AS POSSIBLE.
17


18
NORMALLY, THE VICE PRESIDENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SWORN IN BY NOW.
19

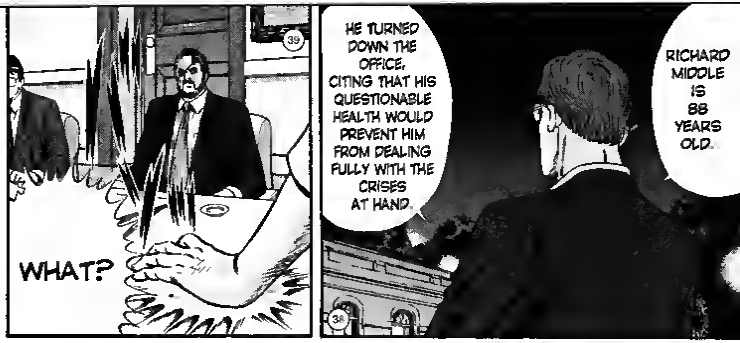
20
RING
OH ?
21
22
I THINK I'M ABOUT TO FIND OUT.
23
J.SPIDER
着信中
CALLING

ARE YOU ALRIGHT, SPIDER?
TAP
25
THIS IS SAKURAGI
24
I DON'T THINK THIS IS THE TIME TO BE GETTING EMOTIONAL, EITHER
I KNOW YOU DIDN'T CALL TO TELL ME THAT.
28
27
OF COURSE NOT. I WAS WITH HIM WHEN HE WAS SHOT.
IT SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED.
IT'S MY FAULT.
26
NO PUNCHES PULLED, AS USUAL
THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU
29
I'LL GET TO THE POINT THEN.
30


32
AMY?
I WOULD LIKE MY DAUGHTER TO RETURN IMMEDIATELY.
31


33
HAS THE VICE PRESIDENT BEEN SWORN IN YET?
LET'S GET BACK TO THINGS AT HAND, SHALL WE? WHAT'S GOING ON OVER THERE?
HEY, HEY, TALK ABOUT A COMPLETELY UNRELATED TOPIC. I WAS EXPECTING SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT.

HE RECEIVED ALARMING RESULTS IN THE PHYSICAL CHECKUP PRIOR TO THE INAUGURATION.
HE HAS CANCER. SO, HE CAN'T BE SWORN IN.
36
WHAT?
VICE PRESIDENT SAMUEL IS IN THE BETHESDA NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER NOW
35
34
37
I SEE.
THEN THE NEXT IN LINE WILL BE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, RICHARD MIDDLE.


39
WHAT?
HE TURNED DOWN THE OFFICE, CITING THAT HIS QUESTIONABLE HEALTH WOULD PREVENT HIM FROM DEALING FULLY WITH THE CRISES AT HAND.
RICHARD MIDDLE IS 88 YEARS OLD.
38

40
...THE...THE SECRETARY OF STATE!
THE VICE PRESIDENT, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE...THEN THE NEXT IN LINE FOR THE PRESIDENCY IS...

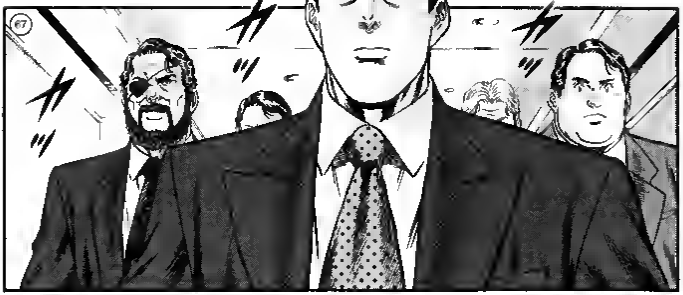
42
THIS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SHORTLY BY THE WHITE HOUSE.
I JUST FINISHED MY SWEARING-IN CEREMONY IN WASHINGTON.
YES... ME!
41

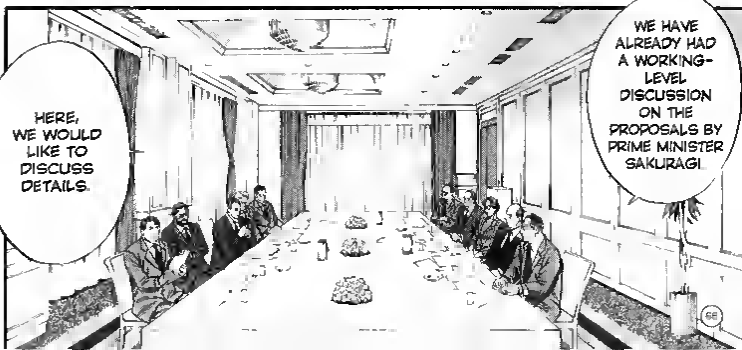
46
TRUE ENOUGH JAPAN INTENDS TO ATTEND PRESIDENT CARRADINE'S STATE FUNERAL
I WILL BRING HER WITH ME THEN.
I KNOW SHE'S A HANDFUL, BUT FOR SECURITY REASONS I CANNOT LET THE PRESIDENT'S DAUGHTER REMAIN OUT OF THE COUNTRY
THAT'S WHY I WANT MY DAUGHTER TO RETURN.
43
45
44
49
YES!
THIS IS PRETTY IRONIC.
TO THINK PRESIDENT CARRIDINE'S LAST ORDERS WILL COME TO PASS LIKE THIS.
47
I EXPECT YOU'LL COME TO THE OVAL OFFICE AFTER THE FUNERAL?
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS READY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPAN
48

53
KEN...
BOSS?
51
50
BEEP
I'M NOT YOUR BOSS ANYMORE
FIRST DAUGHTER, AMY SPIDER
52
56
MS. LI MEI-FENG, THE DIRECTOR OF THE SECURITY BUREAU, IS THE SUCCESSOR AND WILL BE APPOINTED ACTING PRESIDENT
55
PRESIDENT LIN OF TAIWAN HAS *DIED*!
MR. PRIME MINISTER !
CHINA... AMERICA .. AND TAIWAN
WHAT ?
THE CHANGING OF THE OLD GUARD IS PROGRESSING AT A FRIGHTENING PACE
57
54

MS. LI HAS SENT A MESSAGE THAT SHE WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU *IMMEDIATELY* AFTER SHE IS APPOINTED ACTING PRESIDENT
58
WHERE?
59
IN OKINAWA.
SHE SAYS THAT SHE WILL USE THE IMMEDIATE CONFUSION FOLLOWING HER APPOINTMENT TO ARRANGE AN EXTREMELY CONFIDENTIAL MEETING
60
61
KUJIRA! GET ME A PLANE!
BANG
62
YES, SIR!
63
I LEAVE FOR THE U.S. TONIGHT, *BY WAY OF OKINAWA!*
64

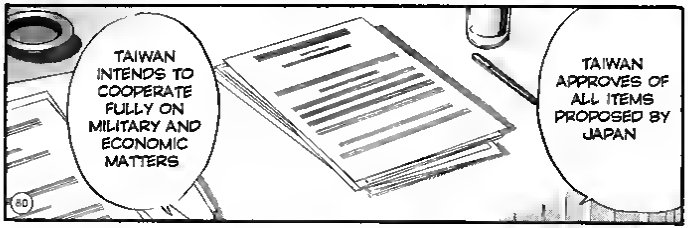
OKINAWA
65
66

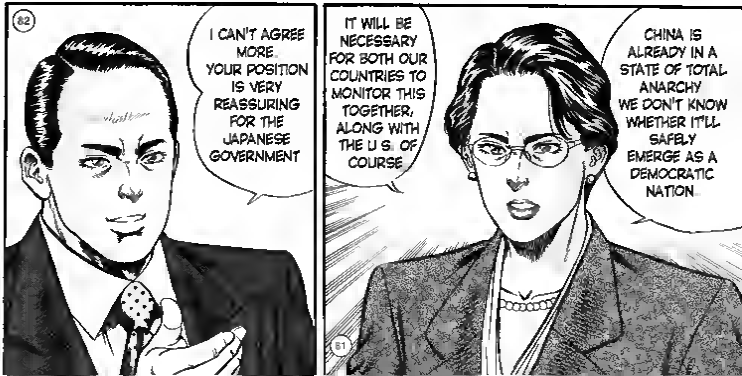

67


HERE, WE WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS DETAILS.
WE HAVE ALREADY HAD A WORKING-LEVEL DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSALS BY PRIME MINISTER SAKURAGI.
68

72
LET US DISPENSE WITH PROTOCOL
WOULD EVERYBODY EXCUSE US FOR ABOUT 30 MINUTES? I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO THE ACTING PRESIDENT ALONE.
69
IT'S ALRIGHT
71
BUT WE'VE NO TIME.
WHAT ?
70
73
76
NICE TO MEET YOU! I'M SAKURAGI KENICHIRO
ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE MYSELF AGAIN.
75
WHAT ...?
74

78
79
77

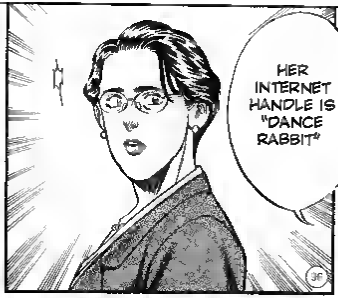

TAIWAN INTENDS TO COOPERATE FULLY ON MILITARY AND ECONOMIC MATTERS
TAIWAN APPROVES OF ALL ITEMS PROPOSED BY JAPAN
80


82
I CAN'T AGREE MORE. YOUR POSITION IS VERY REASSURING FOR THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT
IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR BOTH OUR COUNTRIES TO MONITOR THIS TOGETHER, ALONG WITH THE U.S. OF COURSE
CHINA IS ALREADY IN A STATE OF TOTAL ANARCHY WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT'LL SAFELY EMERGE AS A DEMOCRATIC NATION
81

TAIWAN SEES JAPAN WITH ADORING EYES, SO TO SPEAK.
ALMOST LIKE A YOUNG GIRL'S CRUSH.
86
84
!!!
WE COULD HAVE HAD MORE COOPERATION IN THE PAST AS WELL.
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT TAIWAN BELIEVES.
83
85
HOWEVER, AFTER WORLD WAR II, WHEN TAIWAN WAS NO LONGER A JAPANESE COLONY...
..JAPAN SIMPLY IGNORED US
...A CRUSH ENDS SOONER OR LATER.
HOWEVER, MR. SAKURAGI ...
87
89
WE DO FEEL THAT JAPAN SHOULD BE THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER OF ASIA.
HOWEVER ..
88

IT MAY HAVE BEEN *IMPOSSIBLE* FOR THE OLD JAPAN TO FILL A POSITION OF LEADERSHIP
...WHILE IGNORING ITS PAST HISTORY IN TAIWAN AND ASIA
JAPAN HAS PAID HOMAGE TO THE U.S. AND OTHER MAJOR POWERS, MAKING ECONOMIC DEALS WITH THEM...
30
BUT MR. SAKURAGI! NOW THAT *YOU* ARE PRIME MINISTER, SUCH A THING IS POSSIBLE FOR THIS NEW JAPAN
TO BE THE LEADER OF ASIA!
31
I KNOW A TAIWANESE WOMAN WHO SPEAKS HER MIND TO ME AS YOU DO
FIRST, YOU SHOULD APOLOGIZE FOR YOUR PAST MISTAKES IN A DIGNIFIED MANNER. THAT IS WHAT MAKES A LEADER.
YOU SHOULD NOT BE ASHAMED TO CHANGE.
92
WELL, I DON'T KNOW HER *IN PERSON* JUST ON THE NET, AND WE ONLY EXCHANGE EMAILS
95
94
STRANGE I DON'T FEEL LIKE IT'S THE FIRST TIME WE'VE MET
93
SCRATCH, SCRATCH

98
...AND RACHEL SPIDER, NOW THE FIRST LADY, GAVE THAT WOMAN THE SAME NICK-NAME.
WHEN I WAS AT STANFORD, THERE WAS A WOMAN THERE I DANCED WITH ONCE..


HER INTERNET HANDLE IS "DANCE RABBIT"
96

97
ACTUALLY, THAT NAME WAS THE REASON I BEGAN TO EXCHANGE EMAILS WITH HER

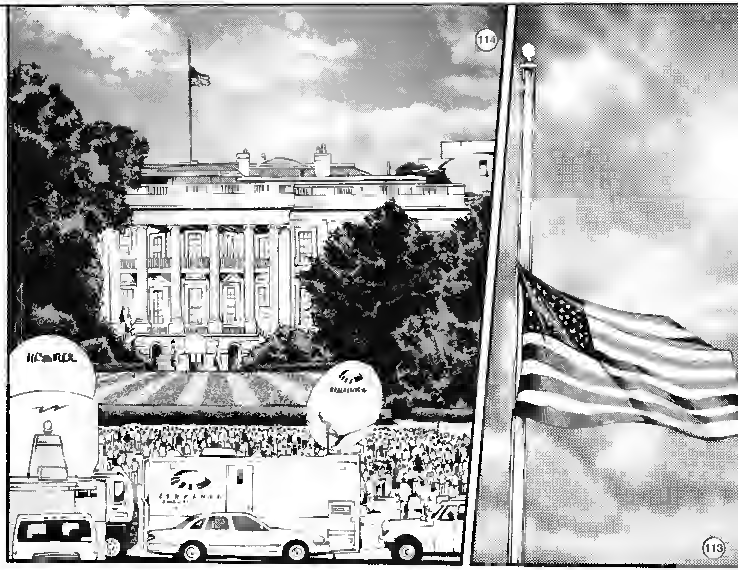
I ONLY SAW HER THAT ONE TIME.
I DIDN'T GET HER NAME. AND I'M SORRY TO SAY, I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER WHAT SHE LOOKED LIKE
100

LIKE A RABBIT, ALMOST.
THIS YOUNG LADY HAD A SMALL BUILD BUT WAS QUITE VIVACIOUS, AND A VERY GOOD DANCER.
99

101
OH, I MUST BE BORING YOU.

HUH ?
102
OH!!
105
YOU .. YOU'RE NOT...
103
SSS
104
I STILL DANCE PRETTY WELL!
106

NO WONDER I FELT LIKE I'VE MET YOU BEFORE
108
107
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THEN THOSE EMAILS
111
YES, OF COURSE !
110
PRIME MINISTER SAKURAGI! DO YOU THINK JAPAN AND TAIWAN WILL BE ABLE TO DANCE TOGETHER AGAIN?
112
109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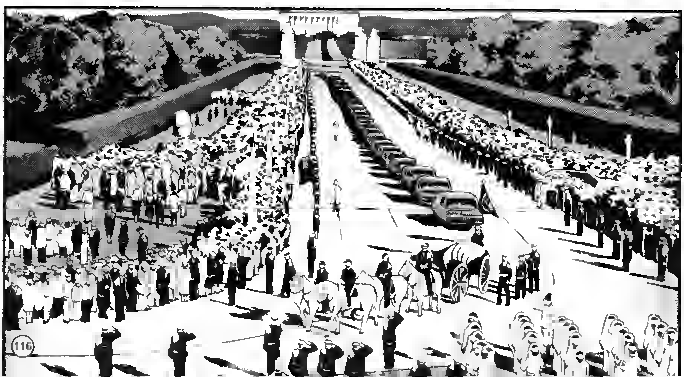
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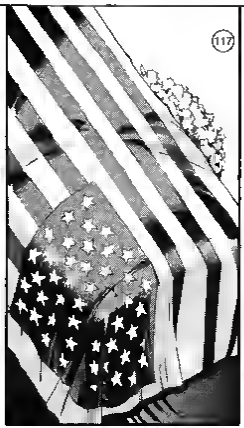
117

19

122

121
120

THE OVAL OFFICE
SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING!
123
124
125
THE OVAL OFFICE.. LITTLE DID I THINK THAT THIS IS WHERE I'D SEE YOU AGAIN
126
CLICK
127
SORRY, BUT I HAVE NO TIME TO REMINISCE
LET'S TALK ABOUT THE HYPOTHESIS THAT CHINA WILL COLLAPSE AND SPLIT UP.
128
SAKURAGI! WHAT DOES JAPAN WANT FROM THE U.S ?
129
WE ARE CONSIDERING THE CONCLUSION OF A NEW U.S -JAPAN SECURITY TREATY FOR THE STABILITY OF ASIA
THE TERMS ARE TO REMAIN THE SAME AS THE ONE WE HAD BEFORE
130

131
THE WORLD MUST CHANGE.
IN ORDER TO DO SO, WE MUST RENOUNCE OUR OLD IDEAS.
132
THIS APPLIES TO JAPAN... AND THE U.S.
THE FORMER U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP DOES NOT EXIST ANYMORE.
133
JAPAN ENVISIONS A MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY FOR ASIA.
WE HOPE THAT THE U.S. WILL PLAY A PART IN THIS. HOWEVER IF NOT...
134
WAIT A MINUTE, SAKURAGI!
WE ALREADY HAVE TAIWAN'S CONSENT FOR A NEW COLLECTIVE SECURITY TREATY, WE.
135
AREN'T YOU FORGETTING SOMETHING IMPORTANT?
EVEN THOUGH IT IS FACING COLLAPSE, CHINA DOES HAVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS
136
I'D SAY THAT'S A HALF-BAKED IDEA
HOW CAN YOU HAVE COLLECTIVE SECURITY FOR ASIA WITHOUT THE BACKING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

137
SPIDER.. THIS IS BETWEEN YOU AND ME.
138
139
WH-WHAT?
JAPAN *ALREADY HAS* NUCLEAR WEAPONS!
ARE YOU *MAD*?
IF YOU DEVELOP ATOMIC BOMBS, JAPAN WILL FACE INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION.
140
141
142
143
LOOK WHO'S TALKING.
YOU'RE THE ONES WHO LEFT THEM WITH US.

143
DESPITE THE FACT THE U.S. HAD ALREADY MADE TWO TREMENDOUS MISTAKES
...
...YOU WERE GOING TO *REPEAT* THE SAME TRAGEDY OF HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI IN *VIETNAM!*
144
THEY'RE THE NUCLEAR BOMBS THAT *YOUR* GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO DROP ON VIETNAM A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AGO
YOUR MILITARY COMMAND OF THAT TIME SECRETLY PLANNED AND MANUFACTURED THEM; THEN LEFT THEM HIDDEN IN JAPAN ONCE THEY REALIZED THEY WERE UNABLE TO USE THEM
145
MY CONCLUSION IS THAT THE ONLY WAY TO PREVENT THAT IS A COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM!
146
WHEN ONE SOLE NATION HOLDS OVERWHELMING POWER, *NOBODY* CAN STOP THEM WHEN THEY ARE MISTAKEN.
147
BUT WE HAVE *NO INTENTIONS* TO HAVE EXCLUSIVE POSSESSION OF THAT BUTTON!
AS YOU KNOW, JAPAN HAS THE TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS ON THOSE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND MAKE THEM OPERATIONAL
148
I JUST WANT YOU TO REMEMBER THAT IT WAS THE U.S. THAT MADE JAPAN A NUCLEAR-CAPABLE NATION.
WE ALSO ARE PREPARED TO SHARE THE NOW UNUSED FORMER U.S. BASES WITH OUR NEW ALLIES.
SO PERMITTING THE U.S. TO USE THEM EXCLUSIVELY IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.

THIS IS A SECRET BETWEEN US, REMEMBER?
THREATEN? OF COURSE NOT!
152
150
YOU HAVE BALLS, SAKURAGI.
HM?
151
CLICK
FIRST YOU USE OUR COUNTRY WITH YOUR SUBMARINE INFORMATION
.. THEN YOU THREATEN US WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS?
156
...FROM BEING A "STRONG COUNTRY" ..
...TO BEING A "RESPECTED COUNTRY"!
I'M AWARE THAT THE U.S VALUES FREEDOM AND ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS ABOVE ALL
153
WHY?
155
AMERICA MUST CHANGE AS WELL
154
IF WE CAN ESTABLISH ASIAN ALLIED FORCES WITH AMERICAN SUPPORT, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CUT BACK ON DEFENSE EXPENDITURES ALLOCATED FOR THE FAR EAST.
WHAT THE U.S WANTS IS A FREE AND SAFE ECONOMIC MARKET IN ASIA, AM I RIGHT?

ONLY WHEN CHINA TRIES TO LAUNCH THEIRS AT US!
158
15
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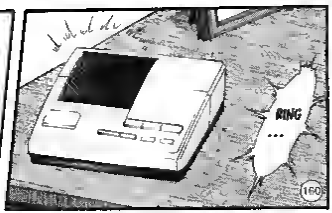
THIS IS AN URGENT REPORT!
THERE IS A CROWD OF HALF A MILLION DEMONSTRATORS PROTESTING FOR DEMOCRACY AROUND TIANANMEN SQUARE IN BEIJING!


RING ...
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WHAT IS IT?
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INDEPENDENT FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF JAPAN
THE END

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